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19 JUNE 1980

(FOU 26/80)

DRUGS

1 OF 2

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JPRS L/9157

19 June 1980

# Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 26/80)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE REPORT  
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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HONG KONG

DUTCH CONNECTION ARRESTED IN RAID ON HEROIN SYNDICATE

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 21 May 80 p 1

[Report by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

Narcotics Bureau detectives arrested six men yesterday and believe they have smashed a syndicate involved in importing drugs into Hongkong and exporting heroin to Europe from Bangkok.

One of the arrested men is believed to be the mastermind of the syndicate.

He is on the wanted list of the Dutch police in connection with a shooting incident in Holland earlier this year in which two people were seriously wounded.

The shooting occurred in February following a dispute between the arrested man, nicknamed "Cha Bo" (Tea Pot), and the Dutchmen over the transaction of 10 kilos of heroin, it was reported.

"Cha Bo" is also known to detectives as a notorious official of the Sun Yee On triad society, which is active in Holland.

Superintendent Mike Horner of the Narcotics Bureau is expected to contact the Dutch police today about the wanted man's arrest and to find out whether they wish to extradite him for trial in Holland.

Two other men arrested in the police swoop are believed to be couriers for the syndicate who had returned from a Thailand trip on Thursday.

The six men were arrested in a flat in Nathan Road, Yaumati, following lengthy investigations into the activities of syndicate members.

In the flat, detectives seized half a pound of No 3 heroin, worth about \$100,000 on the retail market.

Police are not ruling out the possibility that the drugs could have been smuggled in by the two couriers when they returned from Bangkok.

When the raiding officers broke into the flat, the first detective who entered the premises was attacked by a Chinese fighting dog.

The officer was taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital for treatment.

Some of the arrested men were discovered to have substantial sums in their bank accounts and the money could have come from the sale of drugs to addicts in Hongkong and Europe.

Informed sources said that travel documents belonging to some of the arrested men had shown they had been travelling extensively in Asia and Europe.

Supt Horner last night said his detectives raided the flat after more than five months' investigations.

"It is not a big syndicate, but I would say it has been established in both Hongkong and Holland," he added.

The arrested men, aged between 25 and 30, were last night being detained at Police Headquarters and questioned by officers of the bureau.

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

AMBUSH NETS YEAR'S LARGEST HEROIN SEIZURE

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 22 May 80 p 1

[Report by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

Narcotics Bureau detectives yesterday smashed another syndicate involved in smuggling heroin in from Thailand.

It is the second syndicate to be neutralised by the bureau in less than 24 hours.

Three men, including a seaman, were arrested in yesterday's crackdown.

Six pounds of No 3 heroin worth \$1.2 million on the retail market were seized from a man ambushed in Wai Yip Street, Kun Tong.

Further investigations led police to a freighter in the harbour — from which 150 taels of gold worth \$500,000 were also seized.

The heroin seizure was the biggest made by the bureau this year.

The freighter on which the gold was found arrived from Bangkok several days ago. The gold bars were not entered on the vessel's manifest.

A Chinese seaman was arrested and was last night assisting detectives with their investigations.

Detectives working under the directions of Chief Superintendent John Thorpe and Superintendent Mike Horner were last night trying to establish whether there was

any connection between the gold and the drugs.

The operation started with an ambush in Wai Yip Street shortly before 10 am.

The 44-year-old man allegedly found in possession of the heroin was arrested.

Detectives then carried out a series of raids in Kowloon and the New Territories and arrested two men — one in Tsun Wan and the other in Shamshui.

Police then raided the freighter, Bulsook.

A police officer said detectives are still looking for several other people, some of them seamen or former seamen.

Meanwhile, the six men arrested in a drug raid in a Yaumati flat on Tuesday evening were yesterday charged with possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking.

They are expected to appear in court today.

Narcotics Bureau detectives yesterday contacted Dutch police informing them of the arrest of a man wanted for questioning in Holland in connection with a shooting in which two Dutchmen were wounded.

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

HONG KONG TIPOFFS AID THAI ANTIDRUG OPERATIONS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 May 80 p 22

/Report compiled by Tommy Lewis in the column "Monday Focus": "Law and Order"/

/Text/

Thailand smashed an underground factory for drug smuggling devices recently — thanks to the Hongkong customs intelligence.

Through tip-offs by customs officers of both operations and investigations, Thai police and customs officers recently neutralised an underground factory for the manufacture of false-bottomed suitcases.

Couriers used these for smuggling drugs into Hongkong, Europe and the United States.

The intelligence reports were given to the Thai authorities following the arrest of a number of drug couriers who were caught trying to smuggle drugs into Hongkong.

They were using false-bottomed suitcases bought from underworld elements in Thailand.

These drug couriers — local and Thai nationals — were arrested when customs officers discovered their ruse at Kai Tak airport. The couriers had come from Bangkok.

Senior Superintendent Jim Prisk, who heads the customs operations branch, said that apart from smashing the underground factory, customs officers in Thailand last month also seized 2.2 kilograms of heroin which was believed to be bound for Hongkong.

Sen Supt Prisk said information about suspected drug couriers leaving Hongkong would be passed to both the Thai police and customs officers.

He said that their counterparts in Europe and the United States are also given similar tip-offs many of which have resulted in arrests and seizure of drug hauls over the past few years.

Following the smashing of the suitcase factory in Thailand, drug couriers had recently adopted different tactics — body-concealment — Sen Supt Prisk said.

He said that so far this year, six people, including three women, had been arrested at the airport for attempting to smuggle heroin base and heroin into Hongkong by concealing drugs in their anuses and vaginas.

"This is not a new way of smuggling.

"It was used in the old days when people smuggled gold bars into Hongkong when importation of the metal was illegal," Sen Supt Prisk said.

Smuggling by body-concealment is also widely used in Europe and the United States.

Methods of combatting this method were discussed by drug fighters at the sixth annual conference of Heads of National Narcotics Law Enforcement Agencies, held in Sydney in November.

Hongkong's representatives at the conference were Sen Supt Prisk and Chief Superintendent John Thorpe, who heads the Narcotics Bureau.

Sen Supt Prisk said that it was impossible to carry out body searches on all passengers arriving on international flights.

"Most of the arrivals are genuine travellers except for a few involved in the smuggling of drugs," he said.

Asked whether customs officers at Kai Tak could step up their body searches on arriving passengers, Sen Supt Prisk said:

"We will continue to do so and not relax it.

"My officers have been instructed to try not to delay passengers on their arrival here, but to prevent the flow of drugs entering Hongkong.

"We just can't body search every arrival on international flights as most of them are genuine travellers and have nothing to do with drugs.

"My officers have to gather intelligence and to pinpoint possible drug smugglers before they are body searched," he said.

"I am sorry if genuine travellers have been stopped and searched on their arrival but the aim of my officers is to prevent drugs from being smuggled in.

"We are doing our utmost to make Hongkong free of drugs," he said.

"We seem to be having a good year this year, as customs officers have so far seized about 75 kilograms of drugs valued at \$17.6 million on the retail market and have arrested 253 people including seven women in connection with various drug offences."

Meanwhile, customs intelligence says that there seems to be a fair amount of drugs still being smuggled in as the current price of heroin has dropped.

The price of a kilogram of No 3 heroin, with a purity of 20 per cent, on the retail market was \$500,000 in March but the price had dropped to \$450,000, and with a purity of 23 per cent, since last month.

The drop in price and the increased purity of heroin indicate that more drugs have been making their way into Hongkong, the intelligence reports said.

Sen Supt Prisk said: "We will continue to battle the situation to the best of our ability.

"There will be no relaxation in our investigations of syndicates, drug traffickers and even pedlars on the street."

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

LARGE CANNABIS FIND ON PAKISTANI-REGISTERED SHIP

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 13 May 80 p 9

/Text/

Customs officers yesterday seized 25 kilograms of cannabis resin with a retail value of about \$2.5 million on board a Pakistani-registered cargo ship.

It was the biggest seizure of cannabis resin in recent years, according to Senior Inspector Chan Chun-biu of the Customs and Excise Service.

It was believed that the 28 packets of cannabis resin came from Karachi and were intended for Japan, Mr Chan said.

There is little demand for this kind of drug here, Mr Chan said.

Sources said it was highly probable that the drug was to be exported to the US after it arrived in Japan.

It is not known why the drug was brought into Hongkong, sources said.

The seizure was made yesterday morning during a routine inspection of Lalazar, which arrived from Seoul on Sunday and was berthed off Tsing I.

Customs officers boarded the 9,000-ton cargo ship and discovered the cannabis resin — 11 packets under the deck of the engine room and 17 packets concealed inside a pile of plastic and paper sheets on the oil tank.

The vessel was not carrying any goods and was scheduled to leave Hongkong after loading goods here.

Mr Chan said no drugs had previously been seized from the vessel which is here on its third visit.

No arrests has been made, said Mr Chan.

The 57 crew members of the vessel are assisting customs officers in their inquiry.



Customs officers displaying some of the seized drugs.

CSO: 5320



HONG KONG

# ARRESTS HIT SYNDICATE SMUGGLING HEROIN FROM THAILAND

## Large Drug Seizure

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 8 May 80 pp 1, 9

Text

Customs officers believe they have broken the back of a Chiu Chow syndicate which recruits couriers to smuggle heroin to Hongkong.

The breakthrough came yesterday afternoon when officers arrested three men and seized heroin worth more than \$750,000.

The heroin is thought to have been smuggled in recently by couriers from Bangkok.

Customs men believe the men are organisers of the syndicate which has been operating for about a year.

They also think they have been supplying heroin to addicts in East Kowloon and the New Territories.

Yesterday's seizure is the biggest made by customs officers on the street so far this year.

"We are still trying to get the real bosses of the syndicate and we hope to make further arrests in the very near future," Superintendent K. L. Mak of the Customs Investigations Bureau said.

Apart from hunting the "masterminds," his officers are also trying to find the syndicate's drug factory which makes No 3 heroin from smuggled base products.

Supt Mak said his officers knew of several people connected with the syndicate.

He disclosed that his officers

knew of the syndicate's operations about six months ago but had only now obtained sufficient evidence to make arrests.

It surfaced on Saturday when a woman courier, allegedly recruited by the syndicate, was arrested at Kai Tak after a trip to Thailand.

She had concealed half a pound of heroin base in her vagina and anus.

It was alleged the woman had been recruited by the syndicate for a fee of \$5,000 plus air fares and hotel expenses.

It was also found she was one of six couriers sent to Bangkok by the syndicate to smuggle heroin base into Hongkong by internal concealment methods.

Five of the couriers escaped detection but the woman was arrested and taken to hospital where the drugs were discovered.

Following her arrest, officers stepped up their investigations into the syndicate which led to the arrest of the three men.

Two were arrested by a team of officers, led by Inspector K. Y. Kam, who had shadowed their taxi from Kun Tong to Kowloon City. The third was arrested later near Kun Tong.

Three men were last night being questioned at Customs Headquarters in Rumsey Street.

### Women Couriers Held

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 11 May 80 p 1

/Text/

Two packets of heroin base weighing about 1.5 kilograms were found — one tied to the abdomen of a beautician and one to the thigh of a dance hostess — at Kai Tak airport yesterday afternoon.

The drugs, if converted to No 3 heroin, would have a retail value of \$1.6 million.

The seizure followed a four-month investigation by a joint unit comprising Customs Officers and officers from the Police Narcotics Bureau.

The unit is headed by Senior Inspector of the Customs and Excise Service David Tong.

Sources said the two were

believed to be among the couriers of a syndicate that smuggled drugs into Hong Kong from Bangkok.

The pair, who were late last night still being held, flew to Manila from Bangkok on Friday.

"They went via Manila to avoid falling under suspicion," the sources said.

They had left Hong Kong for Bangkok 12 days ago, the sources added.

The two will be charged with possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking and will appear at San Po Kong Court tomorrow.

### Another Airport Arrest

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 May 80 p 1

/Text/

A 47-year-old electronics technician was last night arrested at Kai Tak airport for allegedly possessing about two kilograms of heroin base.

The drugs, if converted to No 3 heroin, would be worth about \$2.7 million, police sources estimated.

The man had arrived from Manila.

Customs officers found the narcotics as they examined a briefcase he was carrying.

The man will appear at San Po Kong Court today charged with possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking.

On Saturday afternoon, about 1.5 kilograms of heroin base were seized from a beautician and a dance hostess at Kai Tak shortly after they arrived from Manila.

The two women have been charged and will also appear in court today.

### Three Persons Charged

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 13 May 80 p 9

/Text/

A beautician and a waitress were yesterday charged with possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking.

Kwong Mee-kam (27) and Cheng San-kuen (25), waitress, were arrested at Kai Tak airport on Saturday.

Wong is alleged to have had about two pounds of heroin base and Cheng about one pound six ounces.

The drugs, in two poly-

thene bags, were said to be worth more than \$1 million.

In another case, a 47-year-old man, Chow Pui-yuen, arrested at the airport on Sunday, was charged with possessing about 2,000 grams of heroin for unlawful trafficking.

Mr E. S. Yanne at San Po Kong Court remanded the three defendants in jail custody until next Tuesday.

No pleas were taken.

### Earlier Airport Seizure

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 7 May 80 p 12

/Text/

Customs officers at Kai Tak airport seized about 230 grams of heroin base and arrested a 34-year-old woman on Monday evening.

The drugs, when converted to No 3 heroin, would fetch a retail price of \$300,000.

The woman, who arrived from Bangkok, will be charged with possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking and is to appear in San Po Kong Court this morning.

CS0: 5320

JAPAN

BRIEFS

DRUG SENTENCE UPHELD--Tokyo May 4 KYODO--The Supreme Court has rejected an appeal made by an American Navy seaman stationed at the U.S. Navy Shields Base in Okinawa against rulings by lower courts which had found him guilty of smuggling cannabis from the Philippines last year. The court's decision, notified to the parties concerned Sunday, thus upheld the jail sentence of one year and two months given to Ricky E. Roberts by the Okinawa District Court last June. Roberts was discovered attempting to smuggle some 18 grams of cannabis from the Philippines by a military plane in January last year. After the appellate court in Fukuoka turned down his appeal against the Okinawa District Court's verdict last November, he had brought his case to the highest court of appeal. [Text] [OW040955 Tokyo KYODO in English 0929 GMT 4 May 80]

CS0: 5300

MALAYSIA

# MOVE TO CHANGE LEGAL DEFINITION OF CANNABIS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Mar 80 p 6

[Text]

**KUALA LUMPUR, Tues.** — A Bill to amend the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance in order to re-define the word cannabis will be tabled at the present sitting of the Dewan Rakyat.

Under the new definition, any part of the plant, other than those specifically excepted, would fall within the meaning of the word.

It will therefore do away with the requirement to prove that the cannabis material comes from any particular part of the plant and includes the leaves.

Presently the word cannabis (except where used in the expression cannabis resin) means the flowering or fruiting tops of any plant of the genus cannabis from

which the resin has not been extracted, by whatever name they may be designated.

The Bill's explanatory statement said that the new definition will follow that in the English Act where the word has been re-defined following the English case of *R. vs. Goodchild* in 1977.

## Enforcement

In that case, which involved a similar definition in the English Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, the convictions of the accused of offences involving possession of cannabis were quashed by the Court of Appeal.

This was because it could not be shown that the cannabis material came from "the flowering or fruiting tops" of

the plant.

The case also showed that cannabis leaves, which are known to contain psycho-active ingredients of the plant and are commonly smoked, are not included in the definition.

Under the Bill — known as the Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Act 1980 — the designation Inspector of Dangerous Drugs and Poisons will be changed to Drug Enforcement Officer.

The Bill will also empower such persons to exercise, whether under warrant or without one, the powers of entry, search, seizure and detention under section 27 of the Ordinance.

Presently only the police and customs officers have such powers.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

PLAN TO EXPAND DRUG TREATMENT CENTERS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Mar 80 p 19

[Text]

**KUALA KUBU BARU, Sat.** — The Welfare Services Ministry plans to make its dadah rehabilitation centre here into a comprehensive dadah addiction treatment centre with the provision of a new building complex equipped with hostel and detoxication facilities.

The Minister, Datin Paduka Hajjah Aishah Ghani, said today the building complex would be set up on the existing site to make the centre the first comprehensive dadah rehabilitation centre under the Ministry.

She was speaking at the laying of the foundation stone of the new complex costing about \$3.3 million.

The complex will have an administrative and a treatment block besides a gymnasium, surau, 30 units of houses for the staff, a playing field and other facilities.

According to the Minister, more such comprehensive dadah rehabilitation centres

would be built to provide more efficient dadah rehabilitation treatment.

**Treatment**

Besides setting up more dadah rehabilitation centres, the Ministry would also enlarge the existing centres to take in more addicts for treatment.

Three centres had been provided for under the Third Malaysia Plan, one of which, in Besut, was already completed while the other two, in Muar and in Sungai Petani, were expected to be ready by the end of 1981.

The centre at Besut would be able to accommodate 130 inmates while the other two would each have the capacity for 300 inmates.

On dadah abuse, Datin Paduka Hajjah Aishah said it was most prevalent in Selangor and the Federal Territory.

The two regions accounted for 3,107 of the 9,116 cases of dadah abuse treated throughout the country from October 1975 to end of last year. — Bernama

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

METHADONE NOT USED FOR REHABILITATION OF ADDICTS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 14 Mar 80 p 12

[Text]

**KUALA LUMPUR,**  
Thurs. — Pemadam  
will not use  
methadone to help  
dadah addicts kick  
their habit, said its  
campaign and in-  
formation chair-  
man, Haji Raden  
Supathan bin Haji  
Sanusi, today.

"Our aim is to combat  
dadah abuse and we do  
not want to defeat our  
goals by permitting  
these hardcore addicts  
to turn to the so-called  
lighter dadah or to  
give them licence to  
carry on their ac-  
tivities," he said dur-  
ing a visit to  
Pemadam's Federal  
Territory branch by  
three Burmese social  
workers.

Methadone is being used  
by some countries, in-  
cluding Hong Kong, to  
cure dadah addicts by  
stages.

On the high rate of re-  
lapse among re-  
habilitated dadah  
users, Haji Raden

Supathan said this was  
mainly due to the lack  
of willpower of the ex-  
addicts.

**Relapse**

"The only possible meas-  
ure is to cut their sup-  
ply and to prevent them  
from mixing with their  
former buddies," he  
added.

He said Pemadam was  
now engaging tradi-  
tional medicine men to  
help cure the addicts.

He said the Universiti  
Sains Malaysia had  
discovered that the re-  
lapse rate among da-  
dah addicts cured by  
traditional method  
was smaller than those  
receiving modern  
treatment.

Dr Tan Tiong Hong,  
Pemadam chairman  
for treatment and re-  
habilitation, said the  
cured dadah addicts  
needed continuous sup-  
port to prevent them  
from returning to their  
old ways.

"That is why we are set-  
ting up more day cen-  
tres and rehabilitation  
and training camps  
such as Camp  
Pemadam in Sungai  
Besil, which is expected  
to be completed by  
next year, to give all  
the possible assistance  
to help the ex-addicts  
live a normal life," he  
told the Burmese vis-  
itors.

He said only 1,000 out of  
the estimated 25,000  
dadah addicts in the  
city had sought treat-  
ment.

Dr Tan called for a more  
concerted effort to be  
taken by the interna-  
tional community to  
check dadah traffick-  
ing.

The Burmese team,  
headed by Dr Daw Tin  
Tin Su, would be here  
until March 29 to study  
the dadah situation  
and measures under-  
taken to solve the prob-  
lem.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

# NARCOTICS ARRESTS, TRIALS, SENTENCES REPORTED

## Small Fine for Elderly Addict

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 22 Mar 80 p 3

[Text]

MIRI. — A man who claimed to have been an opium addict for more than 40 years has been fined \$100 for possessing 64 grams of opium in his Miri home.

Yun Chew, 65, of the River Road Squatter Area, admitted the offence when he appeared before magistrate Mr Eric Khoo Chuah Syn in Miri District Court.

Inspector Zainal Yusof, prosecuting, said the opium was found in five containers when Inspector Goh Beng Hock and Police Constable Lucas Chin raided his house in the squatter area on October 13 last year.

Yun's lawyer, Mr Jimmy Wee, said Yun had been an opium addict for 40 years but had received no medical treatment because until recently there had not been any specialist facilities in Sarawak for treating addicts.

He said although Yun had two dozen previous convictions for similar offences it would not be appropriate to send him to prison.

Mr Khoo said he was moved by Yun's story and did not think a prison sentence was appropriate but hoped he might think about admitting himself to the new drug rehabilitation centre in Kuching for treatment.

## No Leniency for 71-Year-Old

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 Mar 80 p 9

[Text]

IPOH, Fri. — A 71-year-old man who claimed he was a "victim of colonial days" was fined \$2,500 or a year's jail for possession of heroin.

The court found Leong Chee Beng guilty of possession of 150 grammes of heroin at a premises in Clare Street on Dec. 2 1977.

Leong has four previous convictions, between 1946 and 1960, for possession of candu and for providing candu smoking utensils, the court was told.

"The court cannot accept that Leong is a victim of colonial days," magistrate Miss Tee Hong Geok said.

"It is obvious that as a result of the leniency which has been shown to him through the years, and the argument that such persons were victims of colonial days, he has now graduated from being an opium addict to a heroin addict.

"This tolerance of the society must stop somewhere," she said.



### Sentenced in Singapore

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 5 Mar 80 p 9

[Text]

**SINGAPORE, Tues. —** The Singapore High Court has sentenced a Malaysian to 25 years' jail and 15 strokes of the cane for trafficking in 10 grammes of heroin.

Fishmonger Goh Chong Peng, 21, escaped the death penalty when the charge against him was amended to trafficking

in 10 grammes instead of 60 grammes.

Under Singapore laws, trafficking in 15 grammes or more of heroin carries a mandatory death sentence.

The prosecution told the court yesterday that anti-narcotics officers set a trap to arrest Goh after receiving information about his activities. — Reuter.

### Undercover Agent Testifies

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Mar 80 p 10

[Excerpt]

**KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. —** An American agent told the High Court today that he introduced himself as an airline pilot while posing as a dadah buyer during a meeting with two men on Nov. 1, 1977, at the Federal Hotel coffee house.

Mr William Feasor, of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, said during the meeting, one of the men assured him that there would not be any problems as his boss had dealt with European buyers.

He was testifying at the trial of three men and a woman who are

charged with trafficking in 974 gm of heroin at Hotel Jaya Puri, Petaling Jaya, at 6.45 p.m. on Nov. 5, 1977.

They are cake seller Chang Liang Sang, 38, mee seller Wong Ng Ching alias Ah Wong, 24, carpenter Leong Teck Kee alias Leong Teck Foo, 23, and a woman sweets seller Lim Boey Nool, 47.

Three other men: joss stick seller Tew Ah Heng, 33, Chin Wong Chee, 27, and Chee Kok Hwa alias Ah Meng, 36, both unemployed, are charged with abetting them in the commission of the offence at the same time

and place.

Mr Feasor said he was informed of the meeting by ASP Ghauth bin Abdul Ghani, whom he had met on Oct. 30, 1977.

### Supply

He said he arrived at the coffee house at 1 p.m. and stood outside. A little while later, he saw an informant (whom he had met previously) accompanied by another man, whom he identified as Wong.

The three of them entered the coffee house and discussed the purchase and supply of heroin.

Mr Feasor said he in-

troduced himself as an airline pilot.

During the conversation, Wong told him that he could supply heroin in pounds and that the cost per pound was \$7,000.

Wong also told him that the final decision, however, would depend on his boss.

Mr Feasor said when he inquired if there would be any problems, Wong told him that his boss had dealt with European drug buyers in the past and he did not think there would be any problems.

He added that they parted after agreeing to meet again on Nov. 4.

Mr Feasor told the court that he went to Hotel Jaya Puri coffee house that day with his colleague, Mr Michael Powers.

They again discussed the purchase and supply of heroin and how the drug and money could be delivered.

Heroin Possession

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Mar 80 p 24

[Text]

**KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. —** Welder Tham Seng Huat, 24, was sentenced to three years' jail and ordered to be given six strokes of the rotan, by the Session's Court, after he was found guilty on a charge of possessing 38.88 grammes of heroin. Tham committed the offence in a Jalan Gajus house at 6.45 p.m. on Aug 27, 1977.

Life Sentence

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 15 Mar 80 p 14

[Excerpt]

**PENANG, Fri. — A** 60-year-old butcher was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Penang High Court today for dadah trafficking.

Ang Teow Huat was convicted of trafficking in 8,013 grammes of prepared opium at the junction of Chulia Street and Penang Road at 4.45 p.m.

on May 14, 1978.

Honeycomb nightclub partner Khoo Kok Aun, 27, who was jointly charged with Ang, was acquitted.

Before Mr Justice Gunn Chit Tuan pronounced sentence, Ang admitted two previous convictions in Singapore for possessing counterfeit currency and forged documents.

Guilty of Possession

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Mar 80 p 8

[Text]

**JOHORE BARU, Wed. —** A labourer was today sentenced to four years' jail by the Sessions Court here and ordered to be given six strokes of the rotan on two charges of dadah possession.

P. Arunasalam, 24, from Kulai, who pleaded guilty to both the charges was given a four-year sentence and six strokes of the rotan on the first charge of possessing 7.30 gms of heroin in a room of a house at Teoh Garden, Kulai at 9.45 p.m. on June 27, 1977.

He was also sentenced to two years' jail for having 1.32 gms of morphine at the same place, time and day.

Court president Mr Yap Cheng Boon ordered that the sentences run concurrently.

Foo Kok Hong, who was jointly charged with Arunasalam, was acquitted and discharged on Sept. 25 last year.

Earlier, ASP A.M. Rosario, prosecuting told the court that acting on information, a police party raided a house

and seized 175 plastic straws in cigarette packets.

The substance in the straws were subsequently confirmed by the government chemist to be heroin and morphine.

ASP Rosario said the dadah was found in Arunasalam's room.

In mitigation, Mr R.K. Menon, for Arunasalam said his client was a first offender and was influenced by bad company to keep the drugs in the room.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

ASEAN MEETING ON DRUGS--Kuala Lumpur, 6 May (AFP)--A narcotic division is to be set up at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta to coordinate and intensify the fight against the menace in the region, it was learned here today. The division will be manned by experts from the five Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN) member countries who will exchange information on their national anti-narcotic programme. The director-general of the Malaysian ASEAN Secretariat, Mr. Kassim Hussein, said today that the plan would be discussed at next week's meeting of the ASEAN Standing Committee in Kuala Lumpur. [Excerpt] [BK070211 Hong Kong AFP in English 0815 GMT 6 May 80]

CS0: 5300

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

U.S. DRUG CASE REQUEST VETOED--Manila, May 13 (AFP)--The Philippine Government today denied the request of United States military authorities seeking waiver of its jurisdiction over the case of an American serviceman accused of illegal possession of marihuana. Vetoing the request of military authorities in the U.S. Subic Naval Base on Olongapo City, some 72 kilometers (55 miles) northwest of Manila was Justice Minister Ricardo Puno. In his letter to the hearing magistrate, Mr Puno cited the importance to the Philippine Government of exercising its jurisdiction over the case of Ronald Heaberlin, an American sailor who was arrested last 1 January with 400 grams of marihuana leaves. [Text] [OW131719 Hong Kong AFP in English 1534 GMT 13 May 80]

CSO: 5300

YUGOSLAVIA

BRIEFS

TRIAL FOR DRUG PUSHING--The trial of Zeluko Cargonja, 32, worker of the Belgrade city Secretariat for Justice and General Administration, will begin in the Belgrade District Court soon. He has been charged with illicit trade in drugs and with enabling other persons to take drugs. The public prosecutor claims that in January this year, Cargonja was selling raw opium in Belgrade at 500 dinars a gram. He succeeded in selling 2 grams of raw opium, while another 14 grams of raw opium was found in his possession. [Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 22 Apr 80 p 16 AU]

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

GNSP INVOLVEMENT IN ARMS, DRUG TRAFFIC DISCUSSED

Army Accusations

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Apr 80 pp 1, 17

[Text] Santa Cruz, 18 Apr--The Army today disclosed that there is in Bolivia an undetermined number of undocumented foreigners to whom the police have granted forged documents and who, moreover, are trafficking in weapons and cocaine with full knowledge of the GNSP (National Guard for Public Security) authorities. For their part, the police have loudly denied these serious accusations and have called upon heads and officers of the army's Second Division to present documents of evidence.

The disagreements that have just become known between the army and the police in this district could lead to the detention in the next few hours of several foreign individuals and Bolivians engaged in subversive activities and in weapons and cocaine traffic.

Two police and army press conferences were held today (yesterday).

Moreover, the former coordinator of the Ministry of the Interior, Capt Ruddy Landivar, has disclosed that about 3 months ago the GNSP commander in Santa Cruz tried to involve him in "a charade" by proposing to him that he denounce several chiefs of the armed forces as if they were involved in a military coup against the government, in exchange for a lucrative position abroad with expenses paid. This proposition was made, according to Landivar, on instructions from the former minister of the interior, Jorge Selum Vaca Diez.

Some days ago PRESENCIA recorded a complaint from GNSP Commander Col Saul Becerra about the imprisonment of two foreigners at the army's Second Division, despite the fact that it was said the crimes imputed to them were minor and that the army did not have jurisdiction to jail them.

The Second Division, in a notice in the local press, revealed that these arrests were made because chiefs and officers of the GNSP were involved in a series of irregularities; they had given documents to foreigners for them to work in the organization, and they were directly engaged in narcotics trafficking.

### Infiltrations

This noon, at the Command Headquarters of the army's Second Division, the unit's commander, Gen Hugo Echeverria, together with his staff, showed reporters 10 M-1 rifles, 2 machineguns, several revolvers, ammunition of various calibers and extensive documentation consisting of photocopied and forged identity cards, according to what was disclosed. At the same time, General Echeverria presented witnesses who directly accused the GNSP commander, the narcotics chief, the chief of the Intelligence Division of the Police and other officials.

Echeverria, while assuring the press of his respect and making clear that there is no discrimination, disclosed that the intelligence service of his unit has in its possession proof of "the infiltration of foreign elements with undetermined aims and linked to secret networks." He said that these elements are engaged in weapons and cocaine trafficking and are, unfortunately, involved with some police officers.

Echeverria made it clear that the weapons shown to reporters, as well as the documents and the disclosure of some names "is not the whole, but rather a part that does not damage the investigation." Echeverria rejected the idea that the army has gone beyond its jurisdiction and had undertaken police duties.

The commander of the army's Second Division, the chief of intelligence of this body and the legal adviser repeated several times that these disclosures do not involve the police organization (GNSP) but rather a few "bad officers."

Echeverria said the investigation started when the presence was noted of several foreigners who had documents showing them to be Bolivians and asserting, moreover, that they were working for the police. Echeverria said the presence of undocumented foreigners is a danger to national integrity. Our intervention, he specified, is related to avoiding this situation. "There are many foreign elements whose motive for being in Bolivia we do not know, and many have forged documents."

### About the Alleged Coup

After describing the operations involving foreign elements, the former coordinator of the Peasant Military Pact under the governments of Banzer and Pereda, who is now back in the army, Capt Ruddy Landivar, disclosed to reporters that about 3 or 4 months ago, the commander of the GNSP Col Saul Becerra, indicating to Landivar that he was fulfilling an assignment from former Minister of the Interior Jorge Selum Vaca Diez, "made a proposal to me to involve Generals Ruben Rocha, Waldo Bernal, Vicente Gomez and others in a subversive coup."

Captain Landivar said that this proposal was made to him in exchange for the government's ceasing investigation of alleged irregularities when he was coordinator, "of which accusations I am innocent." At that time, according

to Landivar, he was still in the active reserve. Becerra invited him to a public place where they talked, and Becerra said that he was offering Landivar protection, documentation to leave for a foreign country together with his family and a substantial sum of money to remain abroad "for at least 1 year."

Landivar said that he gave a detailed report of this conspiratorial plan to the commander of the army.

#### Seizure of Weapons

The chief of the Army Intelligence Division, Col Luis Lopez, stated that 2 months ago a military operation was carried out in the Los Mangales section of Santa Cruz, where for a long time lottery sellers have held their private ground, and it was known that several had weapons. Colonel Lopez explained that everyone knew that the area "was a kind of free territory. Not even the authorities could come in."

In the tranquillity of a rural house more than 15 small and automatic weapons were found. Gregorio Colomio Riga, together with his common law wife Mary Suarez, the latter an Argentine, the former of Santa Cruz, were the persons responsible. It is said that Colomio was the killer of Honorato Rojas, who was murdered in Santa Cruz a short time after the guerrillas of "Che" Guevara died. Rojas brought the army to an ambush at the shallow part of the Yeso River, where the column of the Cuban Joaquin was wiped out, and where "Tania" also was. The army says that Juan Rodriguez Guagama and Colomio (who is imprisoned at the Second Division) were the killers. According to the army, they belonged at that time to the ELN (Army of National Liberation) and they presently are said to belong to the MNR (National Revolutionary Movement) of Moron.

The army's Second Division in this region asserts that Mary Suarez made several trips to France, Italy, Argentina and Brazil, despite her modest living conditions. These facts were confirmed by her passport and immigration documents. According to Colonel Lopez, it is not known for what purpose she traveled and with what funds. Mary Suarez is also in jail.

The army maintains that there are in Santa Cruz and surely in other cities too shock troops organized for still undisclosed purposes but which are, certainly, subversive.

It was confirmed that the weapons seized in this operation belong to the armed forces. They had been stolen by recruits who later deserted; this happened a long time ago. Moreover, at the present time it is said that there are persons who are encouraging soldiers to steal weapons by offering them quite a lot of money.

Lopez believes that many weapons are in the possession of groups who evidently are passing themselves off as lottery sellers, but at the decisive moment these weapons "will be used for other purposes." Lopez explained that the armed forces have evidence of the existence of cocaine trafficking.



#### Another Case

At the press conference Jose Mendez Peinado was introduced. Mendez Peinado works as an informer for the army, and he said his home was stormed "by a group headed by the chief of police," supposedly in search of weapons and cocaine. He could not turn to the police themselves about this abuse, and thus he reported it to the army. This happened on 28 February. They stole \$1,200 and 20,200 Bolivian pesos. Among the group was Col Juan Sanchez of the police. None of the articles taken, said Mendez, were recovered nor was he compensated for the damage done.

Evidence is being accumulated in other cases, according to the army. Foreigners led by Ricardo Jose Dip Garcia, his brother, and Patricio Daniel Gonzales Paredes, both Argentines, participated in several operations. Since they had documents as collaborators of the GNSP, they operated many times on its behalf. They say that they were carrying out orders from the chief of the Police Intelligence Division, and they even signed a statement disclosing that the GNSP commander himself, Colonel Becerra, "has a cocaine factory in the north."

Today the command of the army's Second Division announced that 2 days ago, when a company of the Ranger Manchego regiment of Guabira was in training in the vicinity of Caranda, a cocaine factory was discovered. This factory is probably the one referred to by the foreigners.

#### New Disclosures

Legal adviser Juan Carlos Camacho stated that the guard has no jurisdiction to ask that the prisoners be handed over to them, and that the prisoners will be placed at the disposal of the regular court. Camacho pointed out that the intervention of the armed forces in this case took place because first of all possession has been established of army weapons in the hands of civilians.

Camacho explained that military law is above any other provision, and therefore, the investigations will continue. There is some evidence to show that many persons are involved, according to the statement by Argentine nationals Dip and Gonzales.

No chief or officer of the Second Division referred to these elements as "guerrillas." It was said that the matter is still "pending."

#### GNSP Rejects Accusations

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] Santa Cruz, 18 Apr--The commander of the GNSP (National Guard for Public Security), Col Saul Becerra, the departmental director of narcotics, Maj Carlos Fernandez, and the chief of police intelligence, Col Juan Sanchez, today rejected "decisively" the accusations of the command of the Second Division of the army and asserted that the latter's goal is "to bring the police into disrepute and to destroy the GNSP."

The second command section of the army's Second Division today published, in a requested statement, signed declarations attributed to Argentine nationals Ricardo Dip Garcia and Patricio Daniel Garcia, who obtained forged documents of Bolivian citizenship and were cooperating with the guard. It said that both men are being sought by the Argentine authorities for misdemeanors and that they entered Bolivia through Yacuiba.

Becerra said that this situation was regrettable, although he does not admit that there was a misuse of authority. He says that he has informed the Police General Command and the Ministry of the Interior about this "maneuver." He asserted that the Argentines had signed blank papers under death threats.

Major Fernandez hinted that members of the armed forces were involved in the seizure several weeks ago in the San Julian region of a small plane carrying cocaine, and that this "offensive" could be a response.

Colonel Sanchez admitted that the Argentines are working as informants and that the GNSP command gave them assignments to move through the city, but not as civil servants.

The two Argentines have disclosed that several members of the police are engaged in cocaine trafficking and that they made several confiscations amounting to more than 100 kg of drugs which were not handed over to the respective authorities.

According to Becerra the accusations of both foreigners are totally false.

Regarding this situation it has been announced that a high-level commission will arrive in the next few hours from the capital to hold a meeting with both sides (the army and the GNSP) to find a solution.

The army's Second Division stated that Ricardo Dip, one of those who assert that several heads and officers of the guard are involved in trafficking in weapons and cocaine, was released for medical reasons, but that subsequently he was detained by the police, where he probably can be found at this time.

Other heads and officers of the guard believe that "this maneuver" is directed toward "destroying the police" so that the army will be the one to take charge of the battle against cocaine trafficking.

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CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

DRUG ENFORCERS RECOGNIZE COUNTRY AS MAJOR DRUG CENTER

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Apr 80 p 10

[Article: "Drug Traffickers Have a Base of Operations in Bolivia"]

[Text] International drug trafficking organizations are using our country because of its vast jungles and the length of its borders to establish protected bases of operations in strategic locations, from which, with an airplane, it is easy to evade the surveillance and control of the authorities. This information was disclosed by the National Administration for Control of Dangerous Substances, on stating that "the battle against drug abuse is a task for all of us."

The organization said that recent operations have uncovered cases in which unlawful organizations are discovered that have great economic power, allowing them to use for illegal ends sophisticated means of transport, communications and weapons.

One example given was the Junquillar case, in which two small planes were used for trafficking operations. There was the Naranjitos case in which a small plane was found with 300 kg of cocaine. The San Javier-San Ramon case led to the seizure of a small plane and two small trucks, proving, moreover, the use of modern automatic weapons.

The National Administration for Control of Dangerous Substances specified that to more effectively confront the drug traffic dilemma it needs greater economic support and methods that make it possible to intercept and cut off the course of trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs. It pointed out that help from the state and from international organizations is necessary in this campaign to defend society and its human values.

United Nations

Regarding these disclosures, it reported Bolivia's presence at the sixth special session of the UN Narcotics Commission that was held in Vienna, Austria.

The commission decided to ask the participating governments for closer technological help to achieve greater effectiveness in checking drug traffic and in controlling chemical substances. Bolivia was represented by the national director for control of dangerous substances, Col Nestor Delfin Baldivieso, and by the chief of the Department of Analysis, Capt Hernan Cortez Vargas.

The commission urged the governments to set priorities for the allocation of resources in order to expedite campaigns for the prevention, control and restriction of drugs on the national, bilateral, multilateral and regional levels.

#### Legislation

Lastly the commission revealed provisions contained in Title 5 of the National Law for Control of Dangerous Substances concerning crimes and penalties.

Article 530 states: "Anyone who illegally provides narcotics or controlled substances to one or several persons will be punished with 5 to 8 years in prison and a fine of 20,000 to 100,000 Bolivian pesos if that person is of Bolivian nationality; the fine for foreigners will be \$2,000 to \$10,000."

Article 560 states: "Anyone who illegally engages in commercial transactions, who sells, buys, delivers or receives narcotics or controlled substances will be punished with 12 to 15 years in jail and a fine of 200,000 to 500,000 Bolivian pesos if he is a Bolivian; the fine will be \$20,000 to \$50,000 for foreigners."

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CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

COCAINE MANUFACTURING RING EXPOSED

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 27 Apr 80 p 13

[Text] The commander of the Ranger Regiment headquartered in Santa Cruz, Col Jorge Arce Lara, yesterday handed over to the police 18 kg of sulphate of cocaine, seized in an operation carried out in Caranda.

The drugs were handed over during a press conference at the general headquarters in Miraflores called by Col Luis Arce Gomez, chief of the Department of Army Intelligence. Argentine citizen Ricardo Jose Sempertegui was introduced to the press. He described some details of the trafficking in drugs and weapons that is carried out in the Bolivian capital, as well as the falsification of identity cards for foreign citizens.

Colonel Lara Arce said that another 33 kg of cocaine were handed over to the judicial authorities in Santa Cruz. He revealed that during the search for fire arms by accident they had found a cocaine factory, at which time the drug was confiscated and two bricklayers who engaged in the building of this factory were arrested. The factory was set up on the ranch of Jose Paz Hurtado, who at this time is a fugitive from justice. Lara Arce said that according to statements from the two bricklayers, the chief of the Santa Cruz Police on the day before this military operation had removed 25 kg of cocaine and a lot of drums of coca in barrels of kerosene. Lara Arce handed over the 18 kg of cocaine to the police.

Col Arce Gomez also handed over the statements and photographs of the four persons arrested.

Arce Gomez asserted that at no time during this police operation was there a confrontation between the army and the police. Instead, the statements of Ricardo Jose Sempertegui made it possible to establish that there was a problem between two members of the Santa Cruz police. This situation was confirmed by the chief of the Bolivian police Col Julio Lara, who said that relations between the army and the police cannot be jeopardized by the illegal activities of two of its members. Colonel Lara said that proceedings were begun against two police members involved in this trafficking, Col Saul Becerra and Col Juan Sanchez Alvizuri.

The chief of narcotics expressed his satisfaction at the army's attitude in checking drug traffic. Col Nestor Delfin said that it was regrettable that an officer such as Colonel Becerra was involved in these criminal acts.

Arce Gomez added that there was no confrontation between army authorities and the National Guard. He clarified that on having discovered smuggled weapons, they were able to locate the network of cocaine manufacturers.

Regarding the smuggled weapons, Arce Gomez said there are four persons detained, including Ricardo Jose Sempertegui, and that in Santa Cruz three Argentines and a Bolivian woman known as "La Choca" were imprisoned. He stated that the weapons smuggling into Bolivia is done through several border locations, but the Army General Command did not authorize disclosing more details. In response to a reporter's question, Arce Gomez said that he had been informed by the press that in several areas some distance from La Paz, such as Achocalla, Muela del Diablo and others there are persons practicing with automatic weapons.

Lastly the Argentine, Sempertegui, disclosed that in Santa Cruz the authorities of the DIC (Criminal Investigation Department) arrested and raped his wife. He demanded protection from the army and police authorities. He said that his wife is in the care of their two sons and that she was detained for more than 48 hours in the Pary section of Santa Cruz.

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CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

GNSP REQUESTS INVESTIGATION INTO DISAPPEARANCE OF COCAINE

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 24 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Santa Cruz, 23 Apr--Through legal channels the chief of the GNSP [National Guard for Public Security], today asked the minister of the interior to investigate the whereabouts of 360 kg of cocaine seized several months ago in Beni from an Ecuadorean national and a North American.

The request to the minister of the interior asks that the chief of the National Narcotics Office be summoned so that he can immediately inform the minister about the location of the aforementioned drugs, as well as about the detainees.

This could be Bolivia's most sensational case in the criminal activity of drug trafficking. This is the first time that such a large quantity has been seized by national officials and transported to La Paz together with two detainees after an airplane had made a forced landing. The plane had departed from Santa Cruz and was headed for some point on the border with Colombia.

Signed by attorney Adolfo Ustares, the document presented to the highest authority in this case points out that last 29 January, when Maj Ciro Fuentes was security chief of the guard in Santa Cruz, the Ecuadorean national Efren Barriga Delgado escaped from prison, where he had been moved from La Paz and placed as a detainee "but without specifying how dangerous he was, much less the fact that he was a narcotics trafficker."

The police chief, who was punished because of this escape, maintains that the case "is interesting." The prisoner was moved to Santa Cruz when--in Fuentes' judgment--he was safer in La Paz. Now, he says, there is also talk about the escape of the North American, whose name is not know.

Fuentes asserts that the accusations against him presenting him as an accomplice in the escape of this criminal "are my death sentence."

Where Are the Drugs?

According to this document, after capturing the Ecuadorean and the North American, together with 360 kg of cocaine, and burning the small airplane, "they had not transmitted from La Paz the corpus delicti." Therefore, the fourth judge of the district for penal matters, Gilberto Roca, let it be known that the document "had been returned to La Paz."

Fuentes asserts that it has been said in La Paz that the drugs in this case "have been burned without judicial authorization, thus encroaching upon the jurisdiction and power of the judicial authority of the district of Santa Cruz."

Mentioning a series of legal provisions in the Law on Narcotics and Dangerous Substances, attorney Ustares notes: "To have gone ahead with this unofficial burning would be considered the crime of destroying the evidence in the case and this would be considered a breach of official duties."

Included with the document signed by Ustares is a certificate signed by attorney Teresa Vera de Gil which asserts that the quantity of drugs is 360 kg. "The normal procedure would be for this drug, on arrival in La Paz, to be deposited, prior to official receipt and verification, in the vaults of the Central Bank of Bolivia, Santa Cruz branch."

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CSO: 5300



COLOMBIA

GRIM STORY OF AN AMATEUR 'MULE' TOLD

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 14 May 80 Sec A pp 1, 16

[Article by Bernardo Navas Talero: "Confessions of a 'Mule'"]

[Text] In a bed at a charity hospital in Bogota, Conny, a repentant "mule," gazes mournfully at the serum bottle which is feeding her after she has undergone a rupture of a stomach ulcer and acute amebiasis, from having carried 121 bags of cocaine in her intestine.

Her calvary began in January of this year, when a "very nice" gentleman struck up a friendship with her in the offices of a customs agency where she was working.

Conny, like many other Colombian women, is separated from her husband, is striving to give her young son a decent education and, like every human being, is ambitious.

One fine day, "Don Charles," the "very nice gentleman," invited her for a break at a fashionable tearoom, and proposed that she take a trip to Miami, "to carry a few little things," making use of her connections with customs.

He offered to pay her fare and lodging expenses, as well as a generous compensation (\$2,500) for the "little smuggling," while at the same time suggesting that she obtain a visa for the United States as soon as possible.

In view of her status as an employee of a large-scale importing firm, Conny procured the visa for the United States within a short time.

"Don Charles," as she calls him, upon learning that she could travel at any time, informed her that the original plans had been changed, "because smuggling is no longer a business," and suggested that she purge herself with a vermifuge which he himself provided.

On a Thursday last March, she received a call from "Don Charles" in her office, asking whether she was able to travel on Saturday. Conny said: "They owed me some days off at the agency, and without knowing yet whether I would go or not, I asked for them."

On Friday morning, they called her at her home. This time, a woman's voice asked whether she had taken the purge yet. After giving an affirmative reply, she was given an address in a town adjoining Bogota, and was told that they would expect her there on Saturday, as early as possible.

Between pain and distress, Conny told us: "I couldn't sleep that night," revealing an expression of sorrowful repentance in her bilious eyes.

On Saturday at dawn she went to the place where she was to keep the appointment, using an intermunicipal bus line.

When she arrived, a beautiful young woman, who was "very pretty and refined," as Conny remarked to us, "explained to me what I had to do."

"It is very simple; you eat some of these capsules containing cocaine; you travel to Miami and deliver them; and then you stay there as long as you wish, enjoying the sea and your dollars," as Conny says she was told very sweetly by her "contact."

Conny continued: "I had heard of a girl in whom, from what I read in the newspapers, one of the capsules broke open, and she died. So I asked her about the dangers. She calmed me, and gave me an explanation which, to tell the truth, relieved me greatly."

She went on to say: "She had a plastic bag from which she took a kind of small pill wrapped in cellophane and very well fastened with a thread that I later found out is the kind used for medical sutures."

The procedure consists of packing about 4 grams of cocaine in three layers of cellophane, which in turn are repackaged in a thin layer of rubber "of the kind used to make doctors' gloves," and then they are secured tightly with the thread used to suture wounds.

She remarked: "The lady insisted that I swallow as a test one which contained only sugar. I did so, and nothing happened to me. It was as small as an Alka-Seltzer."

#### The Trip

After a brief interruption, during which a nurse gave her an injection, she said: "It was about 0700 or 0800 hours in the morning, and I knew inside that I would be incapable of turning back."

"The lady told me that I would have to swallow 200 of those small bags, and that since I had to leave at 0800 hours, I should start doing so. Another young woman, who I later learned was to accompany me, had been swallowing small bags for some time." A convulsive cough interrupted the account, distorting her face which would have been attractive under normal circumstances.

"I began to swallow the capsules. The first 10 made me somewhat nauseous, but then I didn't feel anything. I took them with rice water and Coca Cola, to prevent my stomach from moving at the wrong time, as they explained to me.

"When I had swallowed 121, I felt that I could take no more. My stomach was swollen, and I was nauseated. The pretty lady insisted that I continue, and I told her that I could stand no more.

"She then made note of the number that I had swallowed on a small piece of paper, and warned me that I should be very careful to notice whether all of them emerged. Later, about 1800 hours, I experienced chills and trembling. The lady gave me a pill to calm me.

"We later left for the airport and, along the way, they warned me that, from then on, all the responsibility was mine. They gave me the name of a hotel in Miami where I was to register; and they emphasized that, in case anything should happen, I was alone, and should say that I did not know anyone.

"I boarded the plane half asleep from the effects of the tranquillizer. Everything happened normally. I was calm, and my fright had passed. I was very hungry, but they warned me that I was not to eat anything, because it was very dangerous.

"While we were flying over the 'Bermuda Triangle,' as the pilot announced, I felt a contortion in my stomach which reminded me of the pain of childbirth. I thought that I would die. Forcing myself to be brave, I got up and went to the restroom.

"In Bogota, they had told me that, if this should happen to me, I was not to sit on the toilet, because I would run the risk of losing part of the shipment. As a precaution, they gave me half a dozen plastic bags.

"With the urgency of the situation, and the most horrible pains of my life, I suffered a violent diarrhea. To my amazement, I observed that six of the capsules had been expelled from my body. Calmer, and no longer in pain, and realizing the risk that trying to enter Miami with them would be, I moistened them in the airplane's washbasin and, summoning my courage, swallowed them again."

#### The Taxi

The entry into the Miami international airport posed no problem for her. The latter began when she took the taxi that was to carry her to the hotel.

During the trip she could not repress herself any further, and suffered a dreadful stomach ache which forced her to throw up 12 bags. Terrified, and confronted with the astonished gaze of the taxi driver, she got out, opened the door of the vehicle, picked them up and ran to a restaurant which seemed safe to her.

In one of the restrooms there, she got rid of another eight, and packed them as best she could in her pocketbook. When she went out on the street again, she noticed that the taxi had left her behind, taking her baggage.

When she reached the hotel, she was received by the other young woman who had traveled with her, and before she could recover from everything, she forced her to sit down and eat.

"I ate like a desperate person, and I spent all day Sunday going to the bathroom. I felt that I couldn't stand any more. My companion rudely made fun of my pains, calling me a 'weakling' and a 'slacker,' and some other names that I prefer not to repeat.

"Adding the small bags that were expelled with great difficulty, by about 1900 hours on Sunday I had passed 92. My companion let me sleep for awhile, and at about 2000 hours she woke me up and ordered me to keep eating. I had not left the room for a minute.

"At approximately midnight only 11 of the bags remained for me to expel. I asked my companion to do me the favor of letting me rest."

#### A Tragic Monday

Conny continued her story as follows: "On Monday morning I was able to go out for awhile. My complaining stomach refused to work. I told this to my bodyguard. She only made fun of me, and told me to keep eating if I wanted the money.

"Miami did not look either ugly or pretty to me. I don't remember what it was like. I only recall that I entered a restaurant in order to continue eating. I was so obsessed that I ate four hamburgers. I had taken only a few steps to the street when I felt everything spinning, and I fainted.

"A police patrol car picked me up. I woke up within a short time, and my panic was so great that my stomach became numb. The police did not suspect anything, and left me at the hotel. For hours I did nothing but beg God to move my intestines. It was about 1600 hours. Then my bodyguard chose to give me a laxative. She gave me two spoonfuls and a glass of orange juice."

The reaction in Conny's body was not long in coming. She only remembers walking to the bathroom almost at the point of collapse. Apparently, she only succeeded in passing 10 more.

On Tuesday, she remained confined in the hotel room taking "Ex-Lax" with orange juice, until she told her bodyguard that her stools were stained with a large amount of blood.

"She seemed frightened. She made a phone call, I don't know to whom, or where. They apparently gave her an order to have me returned to Bogota.

"She went out hastily and brought me some clothes, because I had none and what I was wearing had a very bad odor. She gave me the fare and, on the way to the Miami airport, she threatened to kill my son if I informed on them. 'If what is inside of you comes out, sell it and that will be the payment for the trip, weakling,' was the last thing that I understood." Conny became very ill on the plane. A Colombian doctor who was traveling on the same flight treated her. She told him all about her odyssey and when the professional man, who was touched, arrived in Bogota, he helped her to be admitted to the hospital where we found her, a victim of a bleeding ulcer, with amebiasis, her soul destroyed and not a single dollar in her purse.

2909

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

COCAINE FACTORY RAIDED AT MESITAS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 May 80 Sec D p 1

[Text] On Thursday night, special agents from the F-2 staff broke up a powerful ring of drug traffickers, captured six of them, seized a complete laboratory for processing the drugs, confiscated 5 kilograms of cocaine and discovered a new system that they were using to bring the necessary basic materials for manufacturing the alkaloid into the country.

During the operation, a discovery was made of a sophisticated system whereby the shipments of coca base were transported from Bolivia to Caqueta, where they were dropped in parachutes to be picked up by those responsible for delivering the raw material to the central part of the country.

During this latter phase, huge plantains and other agricultural products were used. The method consisted of extracting the pulp from those items, and replacing it with the coca material, which arrived, camouflaged, at a farm in the jurisdiction of Pradilla, in the town of San Antonio de Tena, only 10 minutes from Mesitas del Colegio, in the department of Cundinamarca.

In the modern laboratory located in San Antonio de Tena, the drug traffickers were engaged in the final work to remove large cocaine shipments which were arriving by highway at Bogota, and later transported abroad, by air.

The San Antonio de Tena drug traffickers had modernized their procedures for preparing the alkaloid so much that they were using a brand new product, called "Etamol," which is used to increase the concentration of weight in the substance, so that they would obtain a higher yield from each kilogram of base-paste.

The investigation began 2 weeks ago, when several individuals from Caqueta purchased a small farm in San Antonio de Tena, which they did not use for the customary agricultural purposes in that area. The new owners occupied a small house which was camouflaged among coffee and banana plantations and which was invisible from the immediate vicinity.

The new residents of the farm aroused suspicion among the neighbors, who noticed that, although they were from a preeminently agricultural area, they were not engaged in the usual field work, and were not observed using hoes or tools, nor did they even have any cattle or barnyard animals.

In addition to the foregoing, all the occupants were men, and there was no evidence of any woman who could be doing the housekeeping work or the cooking.

When F-2 was informed of this, a patrol from the establishment was assigned to make a routine inspection. Upon their arrival, the detectives found that the only three rooms in the house had been used exclusively for processing cocaine.

The laboratory consisted of three powerful mobile dryers, 18 jars of chemicals (ether, acetone and ethamone), 14 flasks containing hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, ammonia, stirring rods, test tubes, quality gages, 100 sheets of filter paper and precision scales, gas masks for the "cooks" and other equipment.

According to the F-2 technicians, the laboratory was equipped to produce 10 kilograms per day of cocaine. On the grounds of the farm they also discovered a Nissan camper and a Renault brand vehicle. Both were confiscated.

The list of those arrested is as follows: Dionisio and Lorenzo Granja Diaz, who made the purchase of the farm; Libardo Sanchez Santofimio, Henry Mosquera Salas, Oscar Alberto Gutierrez Palacio, and Faustino Guzman Gonzalez, all of whom were captured inside the farm.

#### Seizure in April

Moreover, in April the police seized cocaine worth over 14 million pesos, and arrested 14 persons, including two women. They also discovered six laboratories for processing the alkaloid, and confiscated 4,375 kilograms of coca leaves, a basic substance for extracting cocaine.

The items seized in the laboratories were valued at over 1 million pesos.

With regard to marihuana, 287 kilograms worth over 700,000 pesos were confiscated, and 22 persons were taken into custody.

Two plantations were also discovered, consisting of 15,110 plants in full production.

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COLOMBIA

AIRCRAFT, TRAFFICKERS SEIZED IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 May 80 Sec D p 1

[Text] The arrest of 16 persons and the seizure of three airplanes, including one with Colombian registration and the other two American, as well as three small planes, was the result of a vast operation carried out by units of the Second Brigade yesterday, in the departments of La Guajira and Magdalena.

The airplane HK-1091 (Colombian) was located on the runway at the Cari-Cari airport in La Guajira when it was seized by the military. Its crew members, Roberto Julio Frider and Humberto Ursola Mendez, as well as 44 bundles of marihuana, also fell into the hands of the authorities.

The two North American aircraft, with registration numbers NA 2060 and 1388, were seized at the Asdrubal airport in the same department. The crew members Gilton Bipparb Harris and Lois Allen Karr were found to have in their possession heavy caliber weapons and nearly 2 tons of marihuana.

Maj Jorge Rosero, chief of information of the Second Brigade, with headquarters in Barranquilla, revealed that the airstrip is owned by Asdrubal Pimentá, who has a lengthy record in the drug traffic.

Twelve more drug traffickers were captured in Santa Marta, after 10 raids in which weapons and marihuana were discovered.

Three of the dwellings which were searched belong to Alcibiades Cardenas, Mariano Vidal and Jose Lopez, three notorious "capos" of the native Mafia. The three small planes were held in Magdalena but, as of last night, their registration numbers were unknown, and there were no further details concerning them.

At the Eldorado airport in Bogota, a lady who was preparing to leave for Buenos Aires was captured with 3 kilograms of coca.

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CSO: 5300



COLOMBIA

TRAFFICKERS CRASH, KILLED AT SINCELEJO

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 May 80 Sec D p 1

[Text] Sincelejo, 9 May--The two occupants of an airplane which was apparently North American were killed at dawn today, when the small plane crashed in the vicinity of the municipality of Since.

The bodies of the crew of the small Cessna type plane were burned. It was impossible to establish their identity or that of the aircraft, which was presumably being used for drug trafficking.

A short time later, the authorities said that, after a search of the plane some pills of the type known as 747 Lemons, called "jumbo," were discovered.

The small plane crashed on the grounds of the "Las Delicias" farm in the vicinity of Since early this morning, when it was attempting to take off.

The authorities ordered the burned bodies of the pilots taken to the legal medicine room of the closest hospital.

A DC-3 plane with foreign registration was also burned by drug traffickers while a Colombian Air Force patrol was making a routine mission in the La Macarena mountains.

On the site two trucks with a large capacity and a dump truck, vehicles which were presumably used to ship marihuana, were found.

The aircraft, which was completely incinerated, was located at El Refugio, near the El Guayabero River, in the eastern plains area.

The plane, whose registration number was not established, was burned when the crew members tried to taxi for the takeoff, and they saw the military plane patrolling the area.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

COCA PLANTATION DISCOVERED--Bogota, 14 May (EFE)--The Colombian authorities discovered a coca plantation which, according to estimates, is worth over 230 million pesos, approximately \$5 million. Two persons have been arrested but their names were not revealed. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1025 GMT 14 May 80 PA]

DRUG SMUGGLING DETECTED--The judicial police discovered a new system of smuggling drugs into the country. Sonia Isabel Trujillo Toro of Tolima, believed to be a member of a drug ring, was arrested after her false-bottomed suitcase was found to contain drugs protected by a metal shield making detection by scent virtually impossible. The suitcase contained cocaine worth 10 million pesos. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 20 May 80 PA]

CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

INTERPOL ARRESTS TEN TRAFFICKERS

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 27 Mar 80 p A-18

[All numbers in article as published]

[Text] Ten drug traffickers, several Colombians and Ecuadoreans, admitted perpetrators of drug trafficking to the United States, were arrested by Guayas and Pichincha Interpol agents.

Confiscated from the prisoners were 7,500 grams of cocaine paste and 500 grams of marihuana [?purchased] for a few sucres, intended for the large U.S. consumer market.

The police believe that the prisoners are part of a large international ring whose leaders probably reside in Bogota, Medellin or Cali. They purchased the drug in Lima, Peru.

A total of 3,200 Grams of Cocaine

Federman Hernandez Barreto, a 47-year-old Colombian who was carrying a suitcase with secret compartments in which there were 3,200 grams of cocaine, was arrested while walking along a Quito street.

The prisoner's direct involvement with Colombian Gloria Espejo Rodriguez or Gloria Espejo Ramirez of Bogota, who acquired the drug for Hernandez Barreto, was established from his statements. The cooperation of Colombian authorities has been requested so that the aforementioned woman can be arrested.

Federman Hernandez Barreto was turned over to the Pichincha Trial Scheduling Office.

Two Prisoners

Also arrested were Victor Ospina, 44 years old, and Martha Patricia Ospina Gutierrez, both of Bogota. Found in the possession of the Colombians were 3,350 grams of cocaine paste hidden in a false-bottom suitcase. The two drug traffickers had planned to take the cocaine to Bogota by car.

Local police have asked their Colombian counterpart to arrest Colombian Julio Hernandez, involved in drug trafficking. He traveled with the rest of the gang to Lima to buy the cocaine.

Victor Ospina and Martha Patricia Ospina Gutierrez, his daughter, were turned over to the Trial Scheduling Office for prosecution.

In Guayaquil

Seven drug traffickers, four women and three men, were arrested by Guayas Interpol agents. They had connections in Peru and had been operating for some time in our country, selling marihuana and "base."

The agents first arrested Francisco Torres Sarmiento, alias "7 mil maldades 3," a persistent drug trafficker who operated in the neighboring town of Eloy Alfaro (Duran). The investigation revealed that he was a member of a well organized drug trafficking ring that obtained the drug in Peru, where they hid it in their shoe soles, managing to get from 100 to 200 grams of base to Huaquillas, Ecuador, on each trip.

Later arrested were Vicentina Hernandez Tomala, who also ran a "consulting service" in which she handled gullible patients who wanted to find out their condition or to be cured of some "spell," and Jorge Barco Velasquez and his roommate Mercy Barcia Solis, from whom 1,250 grams of marihuana and several firearms and daggers were confiscated. Juan Garcia Palacios, alias "El colorado," Celeste Olvera Ruiz and Rafaela Ruiz Solis, the roommate of "siete mil maldades," tried to bribe the agents with 40,000 sucres.

The six persons arrested by Interpol were turned over to one of the criminal courts for their respective trial, while agents continue investigations to lead to the whereabouts and arrest of others involved in the illicit business.



Drug trafficker Federman Hernandez Barreto, arrested with 3,200 grams of cocaine.



Drug traffickers Victor Ospina and Martha Ospina, father and daughter.

11915  
CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

BORDER CITY, MACARA, HAS BECOME DRUG TRANSIT POINT

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Apr 80 p A-16

[Text] Loja--Macara District has become the "key" transit point for drug and narcotics traffic. The drug business is the "modus vivendi" of dozens of families who have come here from various cities of the country.

"The Macara population itself does not benefit from this activity," said the president of the municipal council, Dr Efren Suquilanda.

This official said that "Macara is the obligatory transit port for narcotics; there are no processing plants or laboratories here."

According to the president of the Macara city council, most of the police officials and the officials of the Interpol branch aggravate the crisis by accepting bribes and making possible the activities of the people who bring in the drugs.

Suquilanda said that "there are many families in Macara who have made real fortunes in this type of activity, blackmail and pressures tactics being the most common ways to silence the authorities and honest people."

Macara, a border city of Loja Province, is now a "paradise" for large-scale drug traffickers, without moral or police control.

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CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

DRUG REHABILITATION CENTERS TO BE CREATED

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Apr 80 p A-9

[Text] The National Mental Health Office has started a program for establishing professional rehabilitation centers and workshops for drug addicts.

This program will have the support of the UN Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) and the International Labor Organization (ILO). To this end, Dr Galter Salas, an official of the fund, met with officials of the Ministry of Health to present his report, which served as the basis for promoting the national program.

Among the main activities of this program is the training of national personnel for the establishment of scientific criteria applicable to the treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts. In addition, emphasis will be placed on adequate equipment for the centers.

In Guayaquil

The national director of mental health, Dr Saul Pacurucu, and the ILO main adviser, Prof Ricardo Cereda Montes, have traveled to Guayaquil in order to study the conditions for setting up such a workshop.

In view of the drug use indices it was considered necessary to create a center in Guayaquil. In that city there existed, for some time, an out-patient treatment program for affected persons. This program uses recreational and occupational therapy, which could become the basis for the activity planned by the Mental Health Office.

11635  
CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN NATIONAL JAIL

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Apr 80 p A-18

[Text] Some 60 drug traffickers, most of them serving sentences, are at the National Jail at the present time. This large group is the most troublesome one, because of repeated attempts to regain freedom by bribery, and because of the comforts its members enjoy in their cells.

According to the jail warden, there are 417 inmates in that facility, from various provinces of the country. He said that the majority of the criminals are from rural areas and that rehabilitation techniques include the use of modern methods and the providing of the inmates with work.

It is believed that because of unusual increase of drug traffickers and drug users, among whom there are people from different countries, there should exist a wing or special jail for those who are serving sentences imposed by the judges in accordance with the national laws.

A wing for drug traffickers, who total 200 and who are being held in the various jails and penitentiaries of the nation, will be built at the Litoral Penitentiary.

Drugs and Liquor

In spite of measures taken by prison authorities, it is almost impossible to prevent the introduction of drugs, marihuana and liquor into the prison. The prisoners pay up to 300 sucres for a bottle of common rum, and this leads many people to engage in this business, said the jail warden.

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CSO: 5300



ECUADOR

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS--Members of the Customs Military Police arrested several cocaine traffickers in the Yaguarcocha post station. On Saturday morning, it was discovered the 18.172 kg of cocaine, brought in from Colombia, was being transported camouflaged in a vehicle. The occupants of the vehicle were arrested: Felicita Teran Pallares, Oscar Castaneda Escobar, Rodrigo Zapata Betancourt, Vicente Macias Cedeno, Wilson Hernandez Jimenez, Gabriel Villa Mejia, Rodrigo Villa Mejia, a 16-year old minor and Emilio Betancourt Obando, also known as Humberto Suarez Nireira. The marihuana [as published] and vehicle were confiscated. [Text] [Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 1 Apr 80 p A-16] 11915

CSO: 5300

JAMAICA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA HAUL--Three members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force, a soldier of the 3d battalion of the Jamaica Regiment and three Americans are among 11 persons who have been arrested on drug charges. The police information center said the arrests were made after soldiers and guards at the St Vincent Aerodrome on Tuesday night caught a group of men loading an estimated one ton of ganja [marihuana] onto aircraft. All men have been charged with trafficking the herb. [Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 15 May 80]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

DETAILS ON POLICE, ARMY ANTIDRUG DRIVE IN STATES

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 7 Apr 80 Sec B p 4

[Text] Mexico City, 6 April--The Federal Judicial Police dealt a heavy blow to the organized drug traffic operating in the country, by capturing 136 of its leading contacts in the interior section of the republic.

In making the foregoing announcement, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic warned that the battle against the drug traffic would continue relentlessly, and for this purpose instructions were issued to intensify the campaign against the planting, cultivation and harvesting of drugs.

The drive is being carried out in coordination with the Federal Judicial Police and Mexican Army forces, using both air and land resources, who are inspecting every last corner of the province to detect the drug traffickers' operations.

During the past 20 days, both entities have succeeded in capturing 136 persons associated with the marketing of drugs, and seized hundreds of kilograms of marihuana, 3 kilograms of heroin, over 20,000 toxic pills, 63 kilograms of opium, 400 grams of hashish and 60 grams of peyote.

They also confiscated two hydraulic jacks, 15 late-model cars, eight pickup trucks and 10 firearms, including rifles and pistols, eight long-range shotguns and two submachine guns. In addition, they located two clandestine runways in the state of Sonora, mounting special guards in the vicinity.

In Los Mochis, La Paz, San Luis Rio Colorado, Tampico, Oaxaca, Monterrey, Puerto Vallarta and Mazatlan are the main towns and cities in which the drug traffickers were captured.

In the same campaign, 2,814 poppy plantations sown with 18 million plants, most of which were in flower, were located, as were 228 marihuana plantations with 1.7 million bushes measuring 2 meters tall.

All these drugs are being held by the Federal Public Ministry, an authority responsible for ordering and witnessing their destruction.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic also announced that the campaign against drug trafficking would not be halted; because several systems are being studied which will make it possible to more effectively combat the marketing of drugs in Mexico.

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CSO: 5330

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MEXICO

ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN RESULTS FOR MARCH REPORTED

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 3 Apr 80 p 7

[Text] During the month of March, 2,405 poppy plantations were destroyed manually and by fumigation by forces from the Office of the Attorney General of Justice affiliated with Zone 006 of the permanent campaign against drug trafficking, with their headquarters in this town of Culiacan. The task was performed over an area of 624,556 square meters, with the aid of the Mexican Army.

The report supplied to EL SOL DE SINALOA by an official spokesman for the entity states that the number of marihuana plantations destroyed by both methods was 142, over an expanse of 65,360 square meters. It also noted that 25 mixed plantations were destroyed.

Insofar as arrests were concerned, the department reported that 50 persons were subjected to questioning, and were found guilty of crimes against health in some degrees. Seized from them were 58,375 kilograms of marihuana, 960 grams of heroin (worth about 2 billion pesos), 52 grams of opium gum, one long-barreled weapon, five short-barreled weapons (pistols) and six vehicles.

All of the foregoing were turned over to the Federal Public Ministry as conclusive evidence, according to our informant, so that when the preliminary investigation was completed, a record thereof would be made in the respective files.

Upon being asked about a possible intensification of the campaign, he said that both the Condor Task Force and the members of the Zone 006 group were battling resolutely to prevent the cultivation of poppies and marihuana, and therefore, as soon as the higher authorities consider it necessary, more searches would be made. But he thought that this would not be necessary, because what is being done at present is an intensive effort.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

POLICE, ARMY CASUALTIES IN DRUG PLANTATION SEARCHES

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 26 Apr 80 Sec B p 6

[Text] Several federal agents and members of the Mexican National Army were seriously wounded on Wednesday and Thursday morning, while conducting operations in the mountain area of Linares and Galeana, Nuevo Leon, where, up until yesterday and within less than 24 hours, another 28 marihuana plantations and six poppy plantations were located.

Manuel Espindola Martinez, the coordinator of the Federal Judicial Police in the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, announced that he had personally supervised the maneuvers to destroy the plantations and rescue the federal agents and soldiers who were wounded.

On Thursday afternoon, the federal agents using aircraft (helicopters) detected several plantations approximately 15 miles northeast of Galanea, in the middle of the mountains; whereupon a group of forces from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic and some soldiers began the takeoff.

By the end of the raid made shortly before noon yesterday, several members of the forces had been wounded; but nevertheless the results were positive, because they located 28 marihuana plantations over an area of about 15 hectares, with marihuana ready for harvesting.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

STATE POLICE IMPLICATION IN TRAFFICKING PROBED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 Mar 80 Sec B p 5

[Text] In complete secrecy, the coordinator of the Federal Public Ministry agencies, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, and Federal Judicial Police agents, are conducting an investigation of the seizure of a modern 1980 Cadillac automobile in which traces of cocaine were found and which was picked up from the State Judicial Police.

Although he answered evasively upon being interviewed by EL MANANA, Juarez Jimenez hinted at an investigation of "an important drug case" in which the State Judicial Police agents, or "informers," Ezequiel Garcia Hernandez, Carlos Reyes Arredondo, alias "El Buitre," and that entity's secretary, Jorge Munoz, are apparently implicated.

Yesterday morning, those three individuals were at the offices of the Federal Public Ministry agency, to make their deposition regarding the incidents being probed; but, according to Juarez Jimenez, "they are not in custody."

The official from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic revealed that federal agents had retrieved from the State Judicial Police, headed by Matias Cuellar Garcia, a 1980 Cadillac car, with Illinois license plates XX-2477, in which they found under the carpeting of the rear part of the car a large amount of remains of a white powder, which was apparently cocaine.

The Federal Judicial Police are investigating the origin of this car, because it would appear to belong to an American drug trafficker who was involved in a murder and who, after being arrested and released on bail by the American authorities, escaped to the southern part of the Mexican Republic.

The judicial agents picked up the car in question several days ago, but despite the fact that there were traces of drugs on the rear floor, Matias Cuellar refrained from notifying the federal authorities about it until they so demanded. Juarez Jimenez also disclosed the existence of an investigation being kept secret, concerning the arrest of Jose Luis Munoz.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

SICILIA FALCON STILL CLAIMING 'INNOCENCE'

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 4 Apr 80 p 8-A

[Article by Miguel Anguiano]

[Text] Some 5 years after being prosecuted for drug trafficking, Alberto Sicilia Falcon still claims that he is innocent and that his confinement is a mistake for which he feels no resentment toward authorities.

"Now I want to forget the past. I was not a drug trafficker and I am only interested in paying my debt to society and becoming part of it again through wholesome, productive work."

Elegantly dressed in a beige suit and a shirt with a Mao collar, Sicilia Falcon showed that he was in style despite his confinement in the Eastern Penitentiary.

He said that he has undergone a very radical change which has made him see things from different standpoints which have caused him to appreciate life.

When Sicilia Falcon is mentioned, the mind starts thinking of the world of drugs and dissipation. But the internationally known figure rejects this dialog and points out that he does not wish to hear about it anymore. "I smoked marihuana and occasionally used cocaine, but I was never involved in drug trafficking. It is true that I have been linked with the sale of drugs, but now I want to forget about that. I am paying my debt to society and that is all I care about."

Despite Sicilia Falcon's refusal to discuss the subject of drugs, his hesitation holds a mystery that he will possibly never reveal.

Tall, with a dark complexion and ordinary features, Sicilia Falcon emphasizes that his arrest was a mistake but in spite of this, although he does not accept it, he feels that he is paying a debt to the society to which he belongs.

Cuban by birth and Mexican by nationality, he points out the sadness of his mistake and assures that he wants to redeem himself to live a quiet life without further problems. His words express innocence, but his attitude shows guilt.

"I don't know the risks and dangers involved in drug trafficking, because I have not experienced them. I also feel that enough use has been made of my name for commercial purposes and that I should be allowed to look at the positive side of things."

He gets upset, but does not lose control. He adjusts his glasses to block out the sunlight and exclaims after a pause: "These have been 5 years of continuous meditation and I have now forgotten the past. I am writing my second book, in which I describe some actual experiences."

A reporter asks whether they concern drug trafficking and he replies, not without first staring fixedly at the person questioning him.

"No, they are actual cases of persons who have been put here without being guilty at all. These are actual cases from real life."

He skillfully continues to avoid the subject of drugs and after politely saying goodbye, says that "I have now forgotten the past and will never remember it again."

11915

CS0: 5300



MEXICO

SENTENCE PASSED ON FOUR COCAINE TRAFFICKERS

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 3 Apr 80 Sec B p 3

[Text] In proceedings 150/979, brought against Vicente Espindola Wences, Emilio Santana Rodriguez, Isidro Angeles Cuevas and Apolinar Alvarado Alvarado, the third district judge, Ricardo Rodriguez Villarreal, imposed a prison sentence on them, upon finding them guilty of committing a crime against health.

The first three were given a 7-year prison sentence and a fine of 5,000 pesos. Espindola was found guilty of cocaine possession and trafficking; Santana Rodriguez, of cocaine possession; and Cuevas, of cocaine shipment.

As for Alvarado Alvarado, this individual was sentenced to 3 years in prison and given a fine of 3,000 pesos for the crime of storing weapons.

According to the records of the trial brought against the four aforementioned individuals, on 14 May of last year, in the town of Reynosa, the Federal Judicial Police arrested Apolinar Alvarado, who was found to have in his possession an "R-18" (.223) rifle and a "Commander Mark IV" 45-caliber submachine gun. When he was questioned, he was found to have the telephone number of Emilio Santana Rodriguez; and confessed that the latter individual, a day before his arrest, had called him to tell him that he had 80 grams of cocaine ready to be placed on the market.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

ARMED CONVICTED TRAFFICKERS ESCAPE NOGALES JAIL

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 9 Apr 80 pp 1, 6

[Text] Mexico City, 8 April--Yesterday, 11 convicts who were serving sentences for crimes against health in Nogales, Sonora, made their escape after having seized weapons with which they threatened the guards and wounded one of the latter. The 11 notorious drug traffickers managed to escape through the main entrance.

The Federal Judicial Police succeeded in recapturing only two of the escapees, as they prepared to flee along an old road leading to Cananea, Sonora.

The mass escape of the prisoners took place at the Nogales Center for Crime Prevention and Social Rehabilitation, after roll-call in the morning, when the convicts had already prepared the weapons which they used in the escape.

Manuel Reynaldo Perez Martinez, Salvador Hernandez Leyva, Jesus Ramon Gastelum, Olegario Torres Valenzuela, Rosendo Munoz Lopez, Ismael Icedo Arguelles, Elias Ramon Hernandez, Rosario Barragan Gastelum, Jesus Espinosa Rosas, Oscar Ramon Torres Valdez and Enrique Perez Valenzuela, succeeded in fleeing from the jail, after having fired several shots with the weapons, the presence of which the local authorities were unaware of yesterday.

Federal Judicial Police agents rushed to the scene and made an intensive investigation to find out which person or persons had supplied the firearms which the convicts used in their escape. They managed to recapture Manuel Reynaldo Perez Martinez and Salvador Hernandez Leyva, who had taken the old road leading from Nogales to Cananea, Sonora.

The prison authorities issued a report stating that, after roll-call, the convicts threatened the guards with their weapons, forcing them to open the main entrance, through which they all immediately fled, after firing several shots which hit the guard, Roberto Robles, in the arm.

Yesterday, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic announced that the probe would continue, with questioning of the guards and other prison personnel to determine whether there was any collusion in bringing the weapons into the jail.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

ESCAPED TRAFFICKERS RECAPTURED IN MONTERREY

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 9 Apr 80 Sec B p 5

[Text] Federal Judicial Police forces succeeded in recapturing four drug traffickers who, after escaping from prisons in San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora, and Mazatlan, Sinaloa, joined a Mafia ring engaged in growing poppies for the manufacture of heroin and other drugs.

The mass apprehension of the fugitives from federal justice took place last Sunday, in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, when agents from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, under orders from Comdr Manuel Espindola Martinez, captured other drug traffickers.

The recaptured escapees are Leocadio Paez Pacheco, Eduardo Nunez Ramos and Jorge Perez Fonseca. All three were wanted in San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora, from which they made a mass escape some months ago. They were serving prison sentences related to proceedings 166-977, 56-979 and 67-977, respectively.

Captured along with them was the drug trafficker Miguel Angel Vega Payan, who also escaped several months ago from the penitentiary in Mazatlan, Sinaloa, where he was serving a sentence for drug trafficking. He was subject to proceedings 278-972, being heard in the Second District Court.

After fleeing from the aforementioned prisons, all of them joined other criminals who were operating on a farm located near Linares, Nuevo Leon, where, owing to their experience, they were used for the planting, cultivation, harvesting and scoring of the poppies.

They were responsible for extracting the gum from the poppies, which was then converted into heroin and other drugs.

Comdr Espindola Martinez announced that the four recaptured fugitives would also be tried on the charges to which they are subject in connection with the operations in which they engaged with the Mafia members captured near Linares, Nuevo Leon.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

LARGE HEROIN, MARIHUANA, PILL TRAFFICKING RING DISBANDED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 28 Mar 80 Sec B p 5

[Text] A well organized ring of presumed drug traffickers, consisting of approximately 25 individuals, only 12 of whom were arrested, was broken up by Federal Judicial Police agents under orders from Manuel Espindola Martinez, who seized over a million pesos' worth of psychotropic substances, marihuana and heroin during the course of the investigation.

Those in custody include the ex-convict, Geronimo Banda Leija (who had been tried for drug trafficking); 87 grams of heroin, a bag containing 10 kilograms of cannabis indica, and a separate "brick" of the same grass were confiscated from him.

The others under arrest are Rodolfo Alvarado Camacho, Rodolfo Medina Rodriguez, Antonio Soto Ramirez, Anastacio Juarez Marquez, Fulgencio Hernandez Sanchez, Ascencion Perez Briones, Luis Javier Rodriguez, Prudencio Sanchez, Leon Ambriz Pena, Juana Perez de Banda and Sanjuana Suarez Sanchez.

The majority of the foregoing are located in this town, with the exception of Prudencio Sanchez and Leon Ambriz Pena, who were investigated by the Federal Judicial Police in Matehuala, San Luis Potosi.

Luis Javier Rodriguez is the owner of the "Fleming" pharmacy, an establishment in which he supplied toxic pills to addicts and presumed drug traffickers.

From 'Small Fry' to Grass Growers Were Caught

The Federal Public Ministry agency announced yesterday that, on the afternoon of 24 March, federal agents, under orders from Comdr Manuel Espindola and group chief Arturo Ramirez Abundiz, started a series of investigations with the arrest of the "small fry" Roberto Alvarado Camacho and Rodolfo Medina Rodriguez.

Nine joints of grass were seized from them which they claimed to have bought from Antonio Soto Ramirez, who was later captured, and from whose residence 730 grams of marihuana and two bottles filled with toxic pills were confiscated.

While the federal agents were arresting Soto Ramirez, the "small fry" Anastasio Juarez Marquez and Fulgencio Hernandez Sanchez arrived, intending to buy marihuana from the aforementioned individual.

As the investigation continued, Soto Ramirez stated that he was being supplied with marihuana by the drug trafficker Geronimo Banda Leija, and his partner, Ascencion Perez Briones.

Banda Leija had at his residence 10.5 kilograms of marihuana and three foil containers, filled with a total of 87 grams of heroin, as well as a precision scale.

Previously, the federal agents had arrested Luis Javier Rodriguez, owner of the "Fleming" pharmacy, because he had 400 toxic pills in his store, and also because Antonio Soto had claimed that it was that individual from whom he had purchased the psychotropic substances found in his possession.

Banda Leija stated that he had bought the marihuana which he sold to Soto Ramirez, as well as that in his possession, in Matehuala, San Luis Potosi, from Prudencio Sanchez.

Commander Espindola issued instructions for federal agents to go to Matehuala, where they arrested Prudencio, who did not have any grass in his possession at the time, but who did say that he had sold marihuana to Geronimo Banda.

Prudencio Sanchez went on to say that he had bought the grass which he was selling from Leon Ambriz Pena, owner of the "Puerta del Aire" farm, located in the vicinity of San Luis Potosi.

Steps were taken to locate Ambriz Pena, who had on his farm 1 kilogram of marihuana seed, 1 kilogram of raw cannabis indica and a scale.

Ambriz Pena admitted that he had been engaged for years in planting, cultivating and harvesting marihuana, which he then sold to various customers, including Prudencio Sanchez.

As late as yesterday afternoon, the Federal Judicial Police were still conducting investigations in Matehuala, San Luis Potosi, and in this town. More arrests are expected at any moment.

Held for Questioning

During the course of the probe, the federal agents held Juana Perez de Banda and Sanjuana Suarez Sanchez for questioning, but as of yesterday afternoon their status was still uncertain. According to the federal prosecutor's office, it is not known whether they are liable in any way for the crimes being investigated.



[Begin top left]:

Roberto Alvarado Camacho, Rodolfo Medina Rodriguez, Antonio Soto Ramirez, Anastasio Juarez Marquez, Fulgencio Hernandez Sanchez, Geronimo Banda Leija (an ex-convict), Ascencion Perez Briones and Luis Javier Rodriguez are the presumed drug traffickers captured by the Federal Judicial Police. The capture of the first two started the probe leading to the arrest of the other members of the ring. Toxic pills, marihuana and heroin were seized from all of them. The Federal Public Ministry stated that the last-mentioned was selling psychotropic substances in a pharmacy owned by him, known as the "Fleming" pharmacy.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

POPPY PLANTATIONS FOUND IN NUEVO LEON, TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Discovery in Linares

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 1 Apr 80 Sec B p 5

[Text] Yesterday morning, the coordinator of the Federal Public Ministry agencies, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, and Comdr Manuel Espindola Martinez, as well as federal agents under their command, made a move to continue the investigation of the discovery of 20 hectares planted with poppies on the "Jesus Maria" communal farm near Linares, Nuevo Leon.

Juarez Jimenez and the Federal Judicial Police will continue the probe begun by State Judicial Police agents from Nuevo Leon, who on Saturday morning made a sudden raid on a farm located on the "Jesus Maria" communal land in the municipality of Linares.

There they discovered many plots planted with poppies, all isolated from the others.

During the operation, arrests were made of the presumed drug traffickers Hector Salas Alvarado, Emilio Salas Alvarado, Rosendo Villarreal Olmedo, Isidoro Villarreal Trevino, Jose Luis Lopez Chavira, Manuel Lopez Bejarano, Isabel Garcia Villalobos, Pedro Villarreal Zepeda, Manuel Medina Ramos, Guadalupe and Jesus Garcia Villalobos, and others.

Seized from them were 5.5 kilograms of poppy gum, as well as 40 kilograms of paste being processed; 1.5 kilograms of a processed substance which appeared to be heroin; 17.5 kilograms of opium gum; and a moderate number of weapons of various calibers.

Although the investigation was being handled by the Federal Public Ministry agent, Alejandro Garza Delgado, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic ordered Juarez Jimenez to personally conduct the probe to its final consequences.

#### Further Arrests

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 3 Apr 80 Sec B p 3

[Text] The Federal Judicial Police have made a series of arrests in connection with the extensive poppy plantations which were discovered and destroyed in the Linares mountain area.

In addition to the arrests made in Guadalajara, the federal agents stationed in Monterrey discovered four more plantations of the same drug, which were destroyed.

The coordinating agency for the antidrug campaign, headed by Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, announced that, last Tuesday, the Federal Judicial Police discovered an additional four plantations each covering an expanse of 1 hectare, which they proceeded to destroy.

Meanwhile, according to information provided by the coordinating agency for the northeast zone, federal agents from Guadalajara arrested Miguel Angel Leija Medina, Jose Guadalupe Valenzuela Vega, Leocadio Paez Pacheco, or Carlos Chavez Uriá, Jorge Perez Fonseca, Emilio Morales Magana, Eloy Morales, Daniel de la Rocha Quintero, Adelaida de la Rocha Quintero, Martha Celida Zazueta de Elenes and Esperanza Moran Padilla, among those proven to have connections with the individuals who were arrested in Linares, Nuevo Leon.

#### Marihuana Seized

In a residence located at Allende and Ocotlan, in Ciudad Madero, Tamaulipas, federal agents from Tampico arrested Macario Rodriguez Gonzalez, who was found to have in his possession 1 kilogram of marihuana, 530 grams of seed of the same drug and 12 joints prepared from the same grass.

After the detailed questioning to which he was subjected, Jose Concepcion Garcia Hernandez was taken to Minatitlan, Veracruz; and, in that town, he turned over 235 kilograms of marihuana. This individual had been captured in Tampico, Tamaulipas.

#### Traffickers, Equipment, Weapons Seized

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 9 Apr 80 Sec B p 5

[Text] Continuing the series of investigations regarding the discovery of large poppy plantations on a communal farm near Linares, Nuevo Leon, the Federal Judicial Police agents under orders from Comdr Manuel Espindola Martinez discovered additional expanses of land on which the same type of drug was being grown, and also succeeded in capturing three presumed drug traffickers.

Yesterday, the federal prosecutor's office announced the arrest of Eleazar Garcia Aleman, Elvira Reyes Elizondo de Garcia and Abdon Garcia Aleman, all



three of whom were captured last Sunday at the "Las Barretas" communal farm in the municipality of Linares, Nuevo Leon.

The three individuals were caught while cutting and burning poppy plants from a plantation covering about 2.5 hectares. Half of them had already been harvested and scored.

They confessed to being engaged in the planting, cultivation and harvesting of poppies.

Seized from their farm were the implements used for scoring the bulbs and the collected gum which would be subsequently converted into heroin or other drugs.

Two pistols were confiscated from them, one a 38 caliber super with three loaded magazines, and a 9 mm caliber pistol with two magazines filled with ammunition.

The source of the information said that the poppy plants were 80 centimeters tall with a density of 10 plants per square meter.

An investigation is under way to find out whether these individuals are connected with the drug trafficking ring broken up a few days ago, which was operating in the same manner at the "Jesus Maria" communal farm, near the municipality of Linares, Nuevo Leon.

#### Plantations Found in Tamaulipas

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 12 Apr 80 Sec B p 5

[Text] The discovery of large poppy plantations in the vicinity of Linares, Nuevo Leon, alarmed the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, which therefore ordered the Federal Judicial Police to make a careful search of settlements and mountain areas in Tamaulipas. This brought about positive results because, on Thursday, three plantations of the same drug were discovered near Burgos, Tamaulipas.

Using helicopters and small aircraft, federal agents commanded by Manuel Espindola Martinez flew over Tamaulipas, with good, positive results; because, approximately 10 miles from Burgos, Tamaulipas, they detected from the air three poppy plantations on the site known as "Las Rancherias Santa Ana."

They requested reinforcements by radio, and they immediately raided the site, discovering three poppy plantations. However, they reached the conclusion that the plants were not of sufficient size or development to be used.

The plantations covered an area of about 2.5 hectares.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

POPPY PLANTS DESTROYED IN NUEVO LEON

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 8 Apr 80 p 8-A

[Text] Federal Judicial Police agents discovered a large patch of poppies and arrested two men and one woman supposedly connected with the main drug traffickers operating in the north of the country.

The federal agents surprised Eleazar Garcia Aleman right in the act of harvesting the poppy plants in the community known as "Las Barreras" in the municipal district of Linares in the state of Nuevo Leon.

Following the arrest of the drug grower, it was discovered that his wife, Elvira Reyes Elizondo de Garcia, and Abdon Garcia Aleman were also part of the group responsible for producing poppies and they were immediately arrested.

During the investigation which they underwent, it was learned that drug traffickers established in the northern part of the country travel through districts, convincing farmers to stop growing grain and to become involved in producing drugs, since that is more lucrative.

This activity had already been discovered some time ago by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, however, which has led to the formulation of a full plan to prevent farmers from being manipulated by drug traffickers. Special knives for harvesting the plants and several cans containing (opium) gum ready for processing were confiscated from the prisoners.

The foregoing shows that both the two men and the women had been involved in growing the drug for some time.

This has led to investigations being extended to include the rest of the small farmers in the area, but the results of initial investigations have shown that no farmers are involved.

11915  
CSO: 5300

MEXICO

LARGE-SCALE DRUG SEIZURES REPORTED IN SEVERAL LOCATIONS

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 15 Apr 80 p 8

[Text] Mexico City, 14 April--Over 200 million pesos worth of drugs were confiscated by the Federal Judicial Police during the past 24 hours, when they arrested 20 drug traffickers, destroyed six poppy plantations and a clandestine laboratory, and seized high-powered weapons.

In the state of Zacatecas, the police and the Army held a gun battle with a group of poisoners, in which a soldier and a trafficker were killed.

The first blow dealt by the Judicial Police took place in the settlement known as El Monzon, in the municipality of Misatla, Veracruz, where a clandestine laboratory was found in which drugs of various types and 4 kilograms of heroin were discovered.

In that location, after destroying the laboratory, the police captured Valente Fernandez and Juan Mena Santiago, who were responsible for manufacturing the drugs which were distributed in various states of the country.

In the same state, 19 suppliers of drugs to the laboratories were captured, with 3 kilograms of opium gum, the base for manufacturing heroin, in their possession.

The Federal Judicial Police also reported that, in the municipality of Feul de Gonzalez Ortega, in Zacatecas, members of the Army and that entity, upon destroying three poppy plantations, were met by gunfire from a group of drug traffickers; and as a result the soldier Martin Martinez Guerrero and the owner of the plantations, Juan Castaneda, were killed.

At the same time, at Cerro del Pantano, in Jalisco, the police were burning approximately 55,000 poppy plants, which were ready for harvesting and distribution to clandestine laboratories.

In the town of Culiacan, Sinaloa, the Federal Judicial Police intercepted a shipment of heroin which was being transported by Rosario Lopez Valenzuela

and Oscar Gonzalez Lopez, both of whom were captured and placed at the disposal of the Federal Public Ministry in that town.

Upon being questioned, they said that they had intended to distribute the drugs in the town of Tijuana, Baja California, where they had contacts with drug traffickers from Los Angeles and other American cities.

Vehicles, money in cash and high-powered weapons were also seized from the poisoners of the public.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

WIDESPREAD HUNT FOR MORPHINE, HEROIN TRAFFIC RINGLEADERS

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 15 Apr 80 p 8

[Text] The Federal Judicial Police are conducting a series of investigations in several states of the republic for the purpose of capturing the presumed "fat fish" engaged in morphine and heroin production who appear to be the ones in complete control of the poppy plantations which were discovered in recent weeks in the states of Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas.

To date, no fewer than 25 persons have been arrested, but they proved to be mere employees of the millionaire drug traffickers.

Those under arrest were hired to plant the poppies, some to "score" the plants, others to collect the opium gum and many more to process the gum and obtain morphine from it.

In the operations that have been carried out by both the Army and the Federal Judicial Police, nearly 80 kilograms of opium gum have been seized, but none of the drugs made from it.

It is presumed that, in the municipalities of Linares, Nuevo Leon, and Burgos, Tamaulipas, the opium gum was only produced, and was later taken to other locations where it was processed chemically to make drugs such as morphine and heroin from it.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has in its possession the identities of countless powerful individuals who have been cited as heads of the powerful heroin trafficking Mafia and who are being sought assiduously in various sections of the country.

Those arrested in connection with the poppy plantations which were discovered and destroyed in communities within the municipality of Burgos, Tamaulipas, were only workers who were hired to carry out the various phases of opium gum production.

They are Castulo Cuevas Garcia, Guadalupe Rivera, Eleazar Zuniga Lozoya, Emilio Garcia Arredondo and Alicia Hernandez Garcia, who claim not to know the identity of those who are precisely the "heads," although they gave the names of some individuals who had issued instructions to them.

All of them appear to be mere workers for the traffickers in hard drugs, who earned different wages for their work, depending on what it was.

Those in custody appeared at the agency of the Federal Public Ministry yesterday. They have been held since dawn last Friday, when three poppy plantations were discovered in the municipality of Burgos. This occurred after another drug trafficker who was arrested in Nuevo Leon reported the existence of these plantations.

The individuals in question claim to have been engaged in this unlawful activity for some time.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

POLICE SEIZE MARIHUANA, SEED, COCAINE

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 4 Apr 80 p 8-A

[Text] More than 500 kg of marihuana, a half ton of seed and 16 patches of the same plant were destroyed by the Federal Judicial Police during a joint operation carried out in several states of the republic.

The severe blow to the underworld made it possible to identify some of the main drug traffickers operating in the country, although none of them has been arrested as yet.

The agents coordinating the operation in the republic reported that they located a shipment of 500 kg of marihuana, packaged and ready for distribution, in the community of Magdalena, 2 km from the town of Santa Ana Favela, district of San Carlos Yautepec, Oaxaca.

In the town of San Juanico Guegoyache, district of Totolapan, in the same state, they also located 291 kg of seed found on the side of a ravine. The traffickers had apparently taken it there to turn it over to growers.

At the international airport in Merida, Yucatan, federal agents intercepted a plane attempting to return immediately to Lauderdale, Florida, after dropping off the passengers that it transported to Mexico.

There they confiscated 3 grams of cocaine and 1 gram of hashish and arrested Peter Hans Loris, a German citizen, who was immediately turned over to the Office of the Attorney General.

In the phytosanitary station at Benjamin Hill, Sonora, Federal Judicial Police also arrested Octavio Guilar Sazueta, who was transporting 134 packages of marihuana to the northwest in a van bearing license plates of the neighboring country.

In Veracruz Florentino Mendez Flores had 235 kg of the same drug in his residence. Someone else was to come by to pick up the drug to distribute it to local traffickers. Part of the weed was intended for the Federal District.

11915

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

DRUGS, 136 TRAFFICKERS, FIREARMS SEIZED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 7 Apr 80 p 11-A

[Text] The Federal Judicial Police dealt a strong blow to organized drug traffickers operating in the country with the arrest of 136 of their main contacts in the republic.

In reporting the foregoing, the Office of the Attorney General warned that the fight against drug trafficking will continue relentlessly and that orders have therefore been given to step up the campaign against the planting, growing and harvesting of drugs.

The campaign is being carried out in coordination with the Federal Judicial Police and members of the Mexican Army. Using both air and land resources, they are inspecting every corner of the country to detect drug trafficking operations.

In the last 20 days, the cooperating agencies have succeeded in apprehending 136 subjects connected with the sale of drugs and have seized hundreds of kilograms of marihuana, 3 kg of heroin, more than 20,000 toxic pills, 62 kg of opium, 400 grams of hashish and 60 grams of peyote.

They also confiscated 2 hydraulic jacks, 15 late-model cars, 4 vans, 10 firearms including rifles and pistols, 8 long-range rifles and 2 machine guns. They have also located two clandestine runways in the state of Sonora, where special surveillance has been set up in the surrounding area.

Los Mochis, La Paz, San Luis Rio Colorado, Tampico. Oaxaca, Monterrey, Puerto Vallarta and Mazatlan are the main cities in which the drug traffickers were arrested.

Located in the same campaign were 2,814 patches planted with 18 million poppy plants, most of which were in bloom, and 228 marihuana patches with 1,700 million bushes 2 meters high.

All of these drugs are in the possession of the attorney general's office, which will be responsible for ordering and verifying their destruction by fire.

The Office of the Attorney General also announced that the campaign against drug trafficking will not be interrupted, as several systems are under study which will make it possible to combat more effectively the sale of drugs in Mexico.

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CSO: 5300

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MEXICO

# BRIEFS

OFFICER'S MURDER PROMPTS ROUNDUP--Mexico City, 4 April--The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic announced that, as a result of the investigation of the murder of Cesar Quezada Medrano, commander of the Federal Judicial Police, 136 drug traffickers were captured last week throughout the country. The PGR's official spokesman said that the investigators are following reliable clues to the identification of the Federal Police commander's murderers, and expect to find them shortly. Comdr Quezada Medrano was shot to death at the entrance to his residence in the Bellavista section of Tlalampantla. He was about to leave in his car when several shots were fired at him with long-barreled weapons from two vehicles. Gen Raul Mendiola Cerecero ordered a complete probe of drug trafficking circles, because Quezada Medrano had recently declared war on them. During the captures, the federal agents managed to confiscate 2.5 tons of packed marihuana, 3 kilograms of heroin, 20,665 toxic pills, 62 kilograms of raw opium, 869 kilograms of marihuana seed, half a kilogram of hashish and 60 grams of peyote. The federal agents also succeeded in locating and destroying 2,814 poppy plantations sown with 18.5 million plants, and 228 marihuana plantations with nearly 2 million plants averaging 2 meters in height. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 5 Apr 80 Sec A p 5] 2909

DRUG CZAR OBTAINS PROTECTION--Fearing that he would be transferred from the state capital to the Marias Islands, from which he might have no chance to escape, the "king" of the drug traffic, Carmelo Avilez Burgos, sought protection and the federal court granted him a suspension of the action. "Don Carmelo" was arrested on this border last year with drugs, by Federal Judicial Police agents. He was later incarcerated in the municipal prison. Within a few months, and after several escapes, the dangerous convict was moved to the penitentiary in the state capital, but the trafficker sought protection against the transfer. In its decision, the Eighth Associated Circuit Court granted Carmelo Avilez protection; and hence, yesterday, he was moved from the state capital to this border, heavily guarded by Federal Judicial Police forces. Other ringleaders of drug trafficking groups, such as Salvador Spien and Ricardo Nunez, who were arrested by forces from the General Police Inspector's Office, had taken the same steps previously, and succeeded in obtaining the federal court's protection; and therefore they were returned from the state penitentiary to the municipal jail. The big

drug traffic czar entered the municipal prison at exactly 1210 hours, according to the time clock. Carmelo was taken there by air, causing alarm among the passengers, because several agents with submachine guns were guarding him; and, upon his arrival at the airport, he was being awaited by other also heavily armed agents. [Text] [Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 30 Mar 80 Sec E p 2] 2909

POPPY, MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS FOUND--While federal agents were discovering 11 more plantations (seven marihuana and four poppy) in the vicinity of Monterrey, other members of the same force captured a presumed drug trafficker in Tampico and seized 12 kilograms of cannabis indica from him. The Federal Public Ministry reported yesterday that an arrest was made in Tampico of Carlos Rosales Cano, a resident of 2202 Miramar Street, after 12 kilograms of marihuana had been confiscated from him. This individual confessed that he had, for some time, been making trips to several towns in the country to purchase grass shipments, which he later sold in Tampico. Also, near Monterrey, four poppy plantations, each covering about half a hectare, were located, as well as seven small marihuana plantations. After some samples were taken to be included in the preliminary penal records, the 11 plantations were destroyed. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 18 Apr 80 Sec B p 5] 2909

GERMAN COCAINE TRAFFICKER CAUGHT--Mexico City, 3 April--Federal Judicial Police agents captured a drug trafficker of German origin at the international airport in the town of Merida, Yucatan, as he was attempting to bring into the country 3 kilograms of pure cocaine, with a black market value of over 50 million pesos. The German, Peter Hans Loriz, arrived on a private jet owned by the Card Air corporation of the United States, pretending to be a businessman. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 4 Apr 80 p 1] 2909

TRAFFICKING SECRET AGENT CONVICTED--Yesterday, Justino de la Cruz Moreno, alias "El Tino," who, taking advantage of his position as a secret service agent in Ciudad Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas, had been engaged in drug trafficking, was given a prison term by the second district judge. For his guilt in committing a crime against health in the degree of marihuana possession, Justino de la Cruz was sentenced to 5 years and 3 months in prison, and given a fine of 5,000 pesos. He started to serve the sentence imposed on him as of 10 May of last year, when he was arrested by virtue of a warrant carried out by the Federal Judicial Police. The records relating to the case show that, on 3 March 1973, federal agents arrested Jose Gonzalez Jimenez, in Rio Bravo. In his residence, at 430 Zacatecas Street, he had concealed 170 packages of marihuana containing a total of 205 kilograms. Upon being questioned, Gonzalez Jimenez said that the marihuana belonged to an agent from the Rio Bravo Security Commission, named Justino de la Cruz Moreno. "Tino" was not caught on that occasion, because he managed to escape; but he fell into the hands of the Federal Judicial Police on 10 May 1979. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 9 Apr 80 Sec B p 5] 2909

DRUG-RELATED MURDER--Nuevo Progreso--It is expected that, at any moment, in cooperation with the American police authorities, Antonio Mendoza Chaire, accused of having killed the notorious drug trafficker Natividad Cantu Munoz, because of the rivalry that existed between them in the drug traffic, will be captured. The foregoing was learned yesterday, after one of the victim's companions, who answers to the name of Fernando Sanchez Zamarron, 19 years of age and a resident of this town, made his preliminary statement to the authorities in charge. Although the individual in custody denies having witnessed the way in which the gory incident took place on Thursday of last week, in Rio Rico, at the home of the victim, the investigation under the supervision of the municipal representative, Ernesto Teran Montelongo, has become increasingly intensive, so as to fully explain this crime which caused a sensation in the riverbank area. Judicial sources said that, at the beginning of the probe, the ineptness of the guard officer, Jesus Rodriguez Lara, facilitated the escape of Antonio Mendoza Chaires [sic], who fled abroad to take refuge at the home of one of his relatives who resides in Dallas, Texas. [Text] [H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 7 Apr 80 p 5] 2909

ESCAPED TRAFFICKERS SOUGHT--Ciudad Juarez, 31 March--There are no traces of the 10 prisoners who escaped from the local penitentiary last Saturday, according to a statement made by the commander of the Judicial Police, Jose Alarcon Chavez. Alarcon Chavez said: "The fugitives can hardly have tried to reach American territory, but we do think that they may have headed for the southern part of the country." He added that all of the State Judicial Police have been detailed to search for the fugitives, who are quite well armed with submachine guns and high-powered pistols that they took from the guards during their escape. The authorities fear that the convicts will take innocent persons as hostages, in order to facilitate their escape. The United States authorities (in El Paso, Texas) have been warned of the danger, and hence all the border points have been reinforced. They said that they would act very forcefully if the escaped prisoners try to reach American territory. The fugitives are powerful drug traffickers, whose contacts have large sums of money and will surely aid their friends by supplying them with sophisticated vehicles, such as helicopters and small planes. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 1 Apr 80 Sec D p 4] 2909

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--Four criminals convicted of federal crimes were sentenced yesterday by the third district judge, three for drug trafficking and the fourth for storing weapons, a crime cited in the Federal Law on Firearms and Explosives. Vicente Espindola Wences, Emilio Santana Rodriguez and Isidoro Angeles Cuevas are the drug traffickers, who were sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment and given fines of 5,000 pesos for being guilty of committing a crime against health in the degree of cocaine possession and transportation, possession in the case of the second-named and trafficking in the same drug in the case of the third. Apolinar Alvarado Alvarado was sentenced to 3 years in jail and given a fine of 3,000 pesos for the crime of storing arms. On 14 May of last year, federal agents in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, arrested Apolinar Alvarado Alvarado, who had in his residence two submachine guns, one a 223 caliber AR-18, and another a Mark III Commando 45 caliber. This individual said that he was waiting for Emilio to bring him 80 grams of cocaine so that he could find a customer for it. The federal agents waited for the arrival of Emilio, who came several hours later with Vicente. They said that they had the "powder" at the house of the former, and that Isidoro Angeles Cuevas had left them, to find a customer. A few days later, the Federal Judicial Police

captured Isidoro Angeles in Mexico City. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 Apr 80 Sec B p 5] 2909

PILL TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Carlos Lazo Mendoza and Felix Garcia Bravo were captured by agents of the Judicial Police of the Federal District aboard a bus of the North Sonora Transport line, and two suitcases containing 20 plastic bags in which they were carrying 1,313 toxic pills were seized from them. The two individuals were caught when the bus stopped at San Luis Rio Colorado. They were enroute to Tijuana, to sell the pills. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 10 Apr 80 pp 1, 2] 2909

AUSTRIANS ARRESTED WITH PEYOTE--While federal agents in Reynosa, Nuevo Leon, were arresting three Austrians and a Mexican for possession of peyote, in this town members of the same entity arrested an individual who was wanted by the second district judge, and, in Saltillo, another warrant for arrest was executed. The Federal Public Ministry announced that, upon making investigations regarding crimes against health in the town of Rayones, Nuevo Leon, Judicial Police agents searched a residence, because they had a tip that transactions involving the purchase and sale of drugs were being conducted there. In that location they arrested Werner Halfmann, Peter Rosenberger and Wilhelm Ullram, of Austrian nationality, as well as Baldomero Martinez Torres. All of them were waiting for a customer to whom they intended to sell 29 kilograms of peyote, for which reason they were held for questioning. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 20 Feb 80 Sec B p 5] 2909

QUALUDE TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--According to the decision of the third district judge, Ramon Aldas Cuevas will serve a sentence of 7 years in prison and pay a fine of 5,000 pesos for possession and transportation of psychotropic substances. This individual was captured by federal agents on 18 July of last year, in Ciudad Mier, Tamaulipas, because he had in his possession 7,200 pills of the type known as "Qualude 300," which he intended to sell to the presumed drug trafficker, Jose Cruz Martinez. Cruz was arrested, but was subsequently released upon being given protection by a federal court. The latter stated that he was buying the psychotropic substances from Aldas, in order to sell them in Nueva Ciudad Guerrero to Agustin Barrios, who in turn would sell them to an American. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 20 Feb 80 Sec B p 5] 2909

CSO: 5330

NICARAGUA

CARRION ON DRUG TRAFFICKERS' ARREST, RELEASE

PA160131 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1758 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Managua, 14 May (ACAN-EFE)---Luis Carrion, commander of the revolution, has disclosed here that the Sandinist police discovered and arrested a drug traffickers gang led by Harry Cordon. According to the commander, Cordon was a member of the National Security Office, main repressive organ of the extinct Somoquist National Guard and a former combatant of the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

Carrion, also deputy defense minister, said during a press conference that around \$40,000 worth of cocaine and morphine brought from Peru were confiscated from the six-member gang, all of which are Nicaraguans.

Nevertheless, Commander Carrion complained that the judicial authorities had released two gang members, one of them a woman, because they lacked specific charges against them.

Commander Carrion stated that this situation also occurs with gangs of assailants and robbers which the police have managed to arrest with great difficulty.

Carrion stressed that this is due to the short time span afforded by the law to police authorities to investigate and compile the evidence which may insure the sentencing of the criminal. He warned, however, that the revolution will solve this problem to the extent to which the juridical institutionality is adapted to the needs of the proceeding and the protection of the people.

Commander Carrion praised the "increasing efficiency" of the Sandinist police and stated that it is rapidly solving 56 percent of the criminal cases brought before it.

CSO: 5300



PANAMA

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Norbert Wilhelm, a German film maker, was arrested yesterday at Tocumen International Airport. He had in his possession 488 grams of cocaine. Wilhelm had arrived from Bogota, Colombia and was on his way to San Jose, California. Wilhelm told the authorities he paid \$7,500 for the cocaine in Bogota and was planning on selling it for \$60,000 in Germany. [PA220458 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 15 May 80 p 2-A]

TWO ARRESTED FOR TRAFFICKING--Colombian Clemente Aristizabal Jaramillo, 37, and U.S. citizen Anthony Kevin Allen, 25, were arrested at Tocumen International Airport on 17 and 16 May, respectively, for drug trafficking. Aristizabal was carrying approximately 1 kg of cocaine paste and Allen some 400 grams of cocaine. [PA020439 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 22 May 80 p 7]

COCAINE SEIZED--Panama City, 28 May (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian drug officials have seized 3 and 1/4 pounds of cocaine from Chilean citizen Abraham Segundo Cofre, police reported today. Cofre, 29, arrived at Tocumen International Airport from Santa Cruz, Bolivia. He told narcotics officials that the heads of the operation had accompanied him and they were later arrested at their hotel. No other names or nationalities were revealed, however. [PA020439 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1412 GMT 28 May 80]

CSO: 5300

PERU

#### AUTHORITIES DESTROY COCA PLANTATIONS

Lima GENTE in Spanish 11 Apr 80 pp 75-78

[Article by Jorge Torres Serna and Jimmy Torres Carrasco: "The Coca Is Burning"]

[Text] When the roaring Buffaloes, loaded with experts in demolition and razing, landed at the Tingo Maria airport, an impressive crowd awaited them waving placards and banners on which one would expect to read words of welcome and gratitude. That would be a gross error. The city was waging a protest strike against decree laws 22926 and 22927, and these demonstrators were very vociferously expressing their rejection of the modern coca-hunting Attilas.

Banks, shops, restaurants and even the public market were shut down. But the city was tumultuous. Since the day before, respectable people of the Tingo Maria community, as well as not so respectable fat cats, had been leaving the city hurriedly. Seats on the air taxis were practically auctioned off because of the excessive demand for tickets. Luxury cars crowded the routes out of the city. There were heavy withdrawals at the banks. Some businesses closed, but not exactly because of the strike.

Thus, while some fled the city, judging from appearances, others arrived armed with explosives and weeding implements, and the rest organized meetings and protests.

The strike, together with the blocking of access roads to farms and haciendas, was organized by the Federation of Coca Growers of Tingo Maria, whose president, Tito Jaime Fernandez, told GENTE: "The only money-making crop here is coca, and it is just not possible to eradicate something overnight that has been grown since Inca times." Upon being informed that the decree laws in question only affect illegal coca crops, Fernandez replied: "Unfortunately, 95 percent of the crops here is illegal."

#### Operation Green

On Sunday, 30 March, the so-called "Operation Green Sea 02" began, with simultaneous attacks on coca fields in Tingo Maria, Monzon, Aucayacu, La Morada, Tocache, Uchiza, Juanjui and Campanilla. During the first 3 days the work, at least in Tingo Maria, was arduous and slow. The destruction teams employed an onerous manual method which consisted of yanking each individual coca plant up by the roots with picks and hoes, gathering together dozens of plants, sprinkling gasoline on them, and then setting them afire with matches. Thus, according to the official report itself, only 50 hectares of coca were destroyed during the 3 days. This is an infinitesimal amount when it is estimated that there are no less than 10,000 hectares of coca in the area.

The 20-day operation will cost some 300 million sols. The deployment is truly spectacular. Airplanes and helicopters fly over the forest to locate possible clandestine coca plantations. Navy demolition experts pulverize presses, dryers and coca steeping tanks. There have been nighttime forays with a drumfire of machineguns to prevent ambushes. Twenty-five minibuses were brought in from Lima, each one costing 30,000 sols per day to lease. But in evaluating the results, the operation appears to be out of proportion to the poor results it has achieved. In other words, an anticlimax.

#### The Sleeping Beauty's Nightmare

Tingo Maria is probably the most expensive city in Peru. A plate of rice with a fried egg costs 300 sols here. Papaya juice--the local fruit--costs 250 sols. Coca has raised the price of everything, but money is abundant. Barefoot peasants carry around 5,000-sol bills. Automobiles are the latest models, although the most expensive ones have "disappeared" recently. For example, Moises Carrion, the local Datsun dealer, informed us that orders have been issued to impound 16 Datsuns for default in payments; the owners have vanished, car and all. These days the farms are deserted.

The now besieged "white boom" in Tingo Maria is based on the following figures: Each hectare of coca produces 10 arrobas [1 arroba = 25 pounds] and each arroba produces 4 kg of basic cocaine paste. Coca yields four harvests annually. Thus, 1 hectare produces 160 kg of paste each year. In Tingo Maria 1 kg of paste costs 200,000 sols (in Lima, 1 million). In summary, 1 hectare of coca can yield the amount of 32 million sols to the unscrupulous farmer each year.

This easy multiplication of money has affected those who have no connection with coca--and there are many--and they are the only ones who look with joy and hope upon the police operations. "Those damned cocaine growers have raised the price of everything. I hope they get rid of them," said a man who was afraid to be identified.



So, Operation Green Sea 02 continues. The associated coca growers, having failed in their petition to Col Hector Rivera Hurtado, the head of the operation, to delay the burning, are trying to see the minister of agriculture, and at the same time are threatening to paralyze the city of Tingo Maria with a protracted strike.

Strange, Very Strange

The impression gained here is that those most affected are the little people, while the well-to-do are secure. In 3 days 25 farms were invaded with the ridiculous average of only 2 hectares burned per farm.

In addition, something rather strange happened at the Veronica Farm of Luis Pratto Ramirez, one of the most powerful men in the area. The reporters were told that day that there would be no inspections, and we were invited to fly over the region by helicopter. Nevertheless, Major Rejas and his E Group went to the Pratto hacienda, where the people had foresightedly dismantled their dryer and cut their coca plants, but without uprooting them. They had been unable to camouflage the oven. The destruction operation had begun when, according to the official report, an order arrived from Lima to halt. This angered Tony Ayala, the American DEA expert, who is participating in the operation. There was a tense interval, which broke up 20 minutes later when the task was resumed.

Finally, Luis Pratto was arrested and held incommunicado. This is only a small sample of what is going on.

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PERU

BRIEFS

RAID ON DRUG TRAFFICKERS--Huaraz, 27 Apr--A gang of narcotics traffickers who planned to sell cocaine paste for an estimated 100 million sols was broken up by members of the Civil Guard in a successful operation conducted on 20 April. The police blew up five tanks and confiscated several vehicles in the villages around Huaraz known as Paria, Pongor and Uchuyaco. They also confiscated 30 kg of cocaine paste. In a surprise raid, called Green Hill by the police and headed by Civil Guard Lt Col Luis Guisse Magallanes, 10 narcotics traffickers who were steeping a great quantity of coca in large tanks in the above-mentioned villages were arrested. According to the Civil Guard report, the narcotics traffickers had three automobiles, a station wagon and a truck for transportation and had been operating since 1979. Two leaders who had recently arrived in Huaraz from Tingo Maria succeeded in escaping when the gang was arrested. Among those arrested were the brothers Gody and Rodolfo Padilla, Alejandro Coral (25), Mariano Vildoza, Jorge Morales Rosales and Carlos Hacha Tamara. The magistrate, Marco Tulio La Rosa Sanchez, and the prosecuting attorney, Jorge Huerta Marquez, who participated in the operation, ordered the complete destruction of the narcotics traffickers' houses as well as of the steeping tanks. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 28 Apr 80 p 17] 9015

CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS--San Fernando de Apure, 5 Jun (LATIN)--The national guard on 3 June arrested Bolivian Able de Jesus Castellanos and American Carl Franklin Newton after seizing 250 kg of cocaine worth \$8 million from the small plane they were flying over the Amazon area. Castellanos had to make an emergency landing at Puerto Ayacucho, 150 km south of San Fernando de Apure. He told authorities he was on a military mission for his country, but was unable to present any official documents to prove this. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1719 GMT 5 Jun 80]

DRUGS CONFISCATED--Caracas, 4 Jun (EFE)--A U.S. registered executive jet was seized today in Ayacucho airport in the eastern part of Venezuela. The aircraft was loaded with 350 kg of pure cocaine. The two crewmen, an American and a Bolivian, were arrested by the Venezuelan police as soon as the airplane landed. The cocaine was packed in four suitcases concealed in a secret compartment and is valued at more than \$150 million. The drug seizure is one of the largest made in this country which is believed to be the key point in the so-called "Latin Connection." According to initial reports to the press, the aircraft is owned by a U.S. mining company working in Bolivia. The plane was to fly nonstop Bolivia-Miami but it was compelled to land in Venezuela due to mechanical failure. The Venezuelan technical judicial police took charge of the investigation and asked Interpol for cooperation in order to obtain information on the captured crewmen. [Text] [PA050343 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2358 GMT 4 Jun 80]

CSO: 5300

IRAN

BANI-SADR CALLS FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL CHANGE IN SOCIETY

WA021850 Tehran TIMES in English 12 Apr 80 p 2

[Excerpts] Speaking at a meeting called in his office Thursday to consider health problems particularly related to addicts, Bani-Sadr said that the use of opium heroin and other dangerous drugs was a great problem of Iran and added that this could be solved after creating new hope among the people and giving them a new life to participate in their national affairs.

The meeting was attended by the health minister and other government officials and various suggestions and proposals were made to solve the addiction problem and encourage the people to take proper care of their health.

Bani-Sadr speaking at this meeting, further said that radio and television could play an important role more effective than doctors to cure the addicts and stop the people from using dangerous drugs.

Meanwhile, a government spokesman said that President Bani-Sadr had ordered a nationwide crusade against the use of drugs and the cultivation of poppy flowers in the country. This was a major step taken by the government in response to a call made by Imam Khomeyni to stop poppy plant cultivation in the country.

The gendarmerie forces, the spokesman said, had launched a massive hunt against poppy farming and strenuous efforts were being taken to destroy all poppy plants on the spot.

A group of gendarmerie, he further said, last Wednesday destroyed all poppy plants over an area of about 400 hectares in Khorramabad in Lorestan Province.

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IRAN

BRIEFS

KAZERUN HEROIN SEIZURE--The Kazerun Corps of the Revolution Guards has arrested 'Aberi Salehi and 'Ali Bakhsh 'Abdollahi for possession of 19 grams of heroin. They have been sent to Qasr prison in Tehran. The Kazerun Islamic Revolution Court has sentenced Allahqoli Deqqat-Nezhad to 1 year in prison for possession of weapons. [GF071833 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 7 Jun 80]

SHIRAZ NARCOTICS SEIZED--The search group of the Shiraz police department's central precinct stationed at the 6th precinct today seized 1.6 kg of opiates and 50 various items used for their consumption. [GF081745 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 8 Jun 80]

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ISRAEL

DRUG SMUGGLER OPTS TO RETURN TO CANADA

Jerusalem JERUSALEM POST in English 26 May 80 p 3

[Text] Tel Aviv (Itim).--Dov Orenstein, who was convicted of drug smuggling in Canada and sentenced there to 18 years in jail, decided yesterday that he will return to Canada of his own free will.

The Canadian government had asked to extradite Orenstein, who claims dual Israeli-Canadian nationality, after he jumped bail and fled to Israel. He will remain in jail here until he returns to Toronto next week.

Orenstein was found guilty of heading a gang of Israelis and former Israelis that had smuggled over \$1.2m. of hashish into Canada.

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ISRAEL

BRIEFS

HEROIN TRADE--Israel is a major transfer station for heroin moving from Iran to Europe and America. This came out in meetings held this week between members of the U.S. Congressional Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control and members of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and senior police officers in Jerusalem. The U.S. delegation members expressed profound concern at the large quantities of drugs transferred from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and a number of Arab states via Israel, Egypt and Lebanon to drug dissemination centers in the United States. [Akiva Eldar] [Text] [TA271506 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 May 80 p 1]

HEROIN SEIZED--More than 3.5 kg of heroin, the largest quantity ever smuggled into Israel, has been seized from an Iranian Muslim tourist who arrived from Turkey. The drug, worth about 20,000 Israeli pounds, was found at the airport inside a tape recorder. The tourist cooperated with police and proceeded with a plan devised in Turkey: He rented a room in a hotel from where he telephoned Turkey, announcing that all was fine. Later he invited a local drug dealer to the hotel and when the latter arrived he was arrested by detectives. A search in the Israeli dealer's house revealed many documents pointing to connections with other dealers. [TA071934 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 7 Jun 80]

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IVORY COAST

BRIEFS

DRUG OPERATIONS SUCCESSES--The police and the gendarmerie distinguished themselves during the first 5 months of 1980 by achieving considerable successes in the struggle against the drug traffic in Abidjan and the interior of the country. Last February, members of the Abobo-Gare police station arrested a drug peddler and seized 107 kilos of cannabis. Earlier, the national drug brigade had dismantled a network for the distribution of "the week that makes one mad" by carrying out arrests in Abobo-Gare and Adzope. Thirty kilos of cannabis were discovered during the inquiries of the national drug brigade. Early in April, the gendarmerie brigade at Abengourou, acting in close cooperation with local officials of the department of water and forest resources, arrested a dangerous drug supplier and seized 101 kilos of Indian hemp. [Excerpts] [ABO62050 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 6 May 80 p 7]

CSO: 5300



DENMARK

REPORT SHOWS AVERAGE AGE OF DRUG ADDICTS HAS GONE UP

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 22 Apr 80 p 5

[Text] As a further step in the fight against drug abuse among young people in Copenhagen the city will set up a body--for an initial trial period of 2 years--that will assume medical and social responsibility for treating the hard-pressed clientele.

Social services council member Pelle Jarmer will recommend to the Mayor's Council on Thursday that the new body consist of two doctors, one psychologist and three social educators. This staff will take part in making visits, handle ongoing treatment of the clients and co-operate with the social institutions in their fight against drug abuse.

The additional annual cost of the project for the city is estimated at 1.3 million kroner, with the expenditure for this year being around 750,000 kroner.

In connection with the presentation to the Mayor's Council a report states that the average age of drug addicts in the 1970's gradually rose. Thus most of the addicts now in contact with treatment institutions are between 23 and 26. Of the drug addicts in jail today over half are 25 or older compared with only one-sixth 10 years ago.

Compared with older statistics it appears that the ratio of women among older drug addicts is declining while the ratio of women among new addicts is the same as before, namely around one-fourth.

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(FOUO 26/80)

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DENMARK

MEDICAL REPORT SHOWS RAPID RISE IN BABIES BORN ADDICTED

Copenhagen AKTUEL in Danish 6 May 80 p 15

[Article by Ruth Northen]

[Text] In 1978 50 babies were born to drug-addicted mothers in Denmark. That was double the number born in 1975, leading Dr Peter Ege, who has worked with drug addicts in Vesterbro, to warn against the belief that women on drugs do not become pregnant. They do.

It had been thought that using drugs led to decreased fertility. Many women addicts have experienced the cessation of menstrual bleeding and loss of sexual desire in connection with drug abuse. These women often have uterine infections as well, further reducing the chances of becoming pregnant. But these experiences held true only until 3 or 4 years ago, says Peter Ege who offered no explanation as to why things have now changed.

No Increase in Abortions

In the weekly medical publication, UGESKRIFT FOR LAEGER, he reviewed the major problems normally associated with an addict's pregnancy.

Even if the pregnancy was unwanted drug-abusing women do not express more desire for an abortion than normal women do.

On the contrary these women often imagine the pregnancy will give them a chance to shake the drug habit but experience shows that this is very seldom the case. Most continue on drugs and support themselves by prostitution and criminality right into the final trimester of pregnancy. Another reason why abortions seldom enter into the picture is that the pregnancy is often discovered very late--partly because the women have had periods stop for other reasons in the past.

The pregnant drug abuser needs support and supervision more than anyone else but she does not approach the existing system voluntarily. And in

practice contact is not established via the Social Services Office or treatment institutions.

This also makes it hard to give these women help in reducing their use of drugs. The earlier this occurs in the pregnancy the better, but on the other hand it is no easier to get a pregnant woman off drugs than it is to cure other addicts. And methadone is not a good aid here. It is just as harmful for the fetus as heroin and children born of mothers on methadone actually suffer more from "withdrawal" than children of mothers on heroin according to Peter Ege.

The most important form of help for pregnant drug addicts is socio-pedagogic assistance and it is also important to provide support for drug abusers by women familiar with pregnancy, women with young children who can help prepare them for motherhood.

Children of addicted mothers are often born too early and tend to be underweight and underdeveloped. Crib death occurs 10 times more frequently among children of addicts compared with children of normal mothers and the babies can be restless and grow poorly for 4 to 6 months after they are born due to the drug dependency they were born with.

Peter Ege points out that this also increases the risk that mother and child will get on each other's nerves. The combination of a difficult and irritable baby and a mother with few resources is an unfortunate one. The child runs a great risk, especially if the mother continues to use drugs after giving birth. Direct abuse and neglect as well as emotional rejection and lack of stimulation are the lot of many children in a drug environment.

#### When Children Should Be Removed

This is a good argument for suggesting adoption to a pregnant drug addict. It is also a reason to give special supervision to children who remain with their mothers. Under any circumstances these children should be guaranteed room in daycare institutions--and in many cases the only solution will be to remove the child from its mother altogether for varying lengths of time, Peter Ege said.

But his impression is that these children are very seldom removed in practice, since "people" are too hesitant and restrained.

There is an urgent need to coordinate efforts for the growing number of pregnant drug addicts and children in addicted families. Social service agencies, hospital wards for childbirth and pediatric care, health nurses, doctors and treatment centers must work closely here. It is important to have children checked by professional groups experienced in detecting child abuse and neglect, both material and emotional, said Peter Ege who is still closely associated with narcotics problems through his membership on the contact committee concerned with drug and alcohol issues.

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DENMARK

MEDICAL JOURNAL: USE OF SEASICK PILLS AS NARCOTIC UP

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 29 Apr 80 p 5

[Text] Seasick pills are being used increasingly as a narcotic by very young children and discussions are under way concerning what can be done to prevent the phenomenon from spreading further.

An article in UGESKRIFT FOR LAEGER says that in some places there have been a number of cases in which children 10-14 years old were hospitalized in very poor condition with hallucinations and the like after having consumed 10-15 seasick pills. In theory a prescription is needed to buy the pills but they can be obtained over the counter when they are supplied with a printed label concerning proper usage.

So far the Health Administration's Side Effects Board has received 32 reports on abuse of seasick pills among young people, 31 of them in the summer of 1979. School administrators also say they are aware of this type of abuse.

Those poisoned with this drug can lose their sense of time and place, they see visions and later view the experience as very unpleasant. In even larger doses severe cramping can occur.

Several doctors feel we should consider making seasick pills a prescription drug again, with no over-the-counter sales. But this would cause many problems for the large number of people using the pills to combat allergies or motion sickness. And it is said this would solve only part of the problem since there is no guarantee the abuse will not be channeled into more dangerous paths or into the use of other drugs.

Political Solution

Dr Flemming Frolund concedes this point in an editorial article.

"One cannot eliminate the abuse of intoxicating drugs by making them prescription drugs. This is a social and psychological problem. A

real solution to the problem must be political and this cannot be accomplished either today or tomorrow.

"Doctors must make people aware of the fact that these drugs--anti-histamines--can make them sleepy but they can also have the exact opposite effect. And that these pills along with appetite suppressants and other medicines should not be kept in pocketbooks or in unlocked cabinets and drawers," Dr Frolund wrote.

Chief medical officer Soren K. Sorensen said yesterday that it was news to the Health Department that such an abuse was occurring among young people. Developments will be followed closely and if necessary steps will be taken even if this might inconvenience the many people who use the pills for the purposes for which they are intended.

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CSO: 5300

DENMARK

COURT SENTENCES WOMAN FOR SMUGGLING MORPHINE CHLORIDE

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 19 Apr 80 p 7

[Text] "I did it for the money, that was the only reason," said 25-year-old Iben Brandt who was sentenced to 2 years and 6 months in jail by Copenhagen Municipal Court for smuggling in 800 grams of morphine chloride.

The young woman received the same sentence as a friend of hers who is the same age. She was sentenced 3 weeks ago in another part of this complex case. Both are regarded as relatively small pawns in the previously-reported smuggling of narcotics from India to Denmark.

Ringleader Former Big Smuggler

The chief figure in the case is a former large-scale smuggler who is expected to be charged with having organized some twenty trips to India to obtain the drugs. The couriers were mainly young women who concealed the drugs in their thick-soled shoes. In court Iben Brandt explained that she herself was not dependent on drugs and that no pressure had been placed on her to take part in the illegal traffic. She did it to earn money and she had received 50,000 kroner for her participation. The narcotics police believe they are on the track of the person who financed the many trips.

The sentences handed down already are just the preliminary cases in a long list of trials. Many people associated with this case have been arrested and they will be brought to trial as the investigation proceeds.

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DENMARK

CONVICTED BURGLAR CONFESSES TO HEROIN ADDICTION

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 12 May 80 p 2

[Text] In Copenhagen Magistrates' Court yesterday a 27-year-old burglar said he spends at least 30,000 kroner a month on heroin. He and his 17-year-old girlfriend were charged with around 200 burglaries from apartments and offices and with breaking windows all over Copenhagen.

The girl admitted having taken part in some burglaries but all she got was enough money for cigarettes while her boyfriend kept the rest of what they got for heroin. Several times her boyfriend had gone into Frederiksberg City Hall where he stole handbags from the offices. She later returned personal papers to the owners of the stolen handbags.

The 17-year-old girl was jailed for 5 days and the man for 15 while the police investigate the case. The man confessed to 10-20 thefts and said that since his release on 5 March he has lived off of public assistance and burglary.

He estimated that he had received between 50,000 and 100,000 kroner from the thefts. He sold the stolen goods at a bar on Istedgade to get money for heroin which cost him at least 30,000 kroner a month with a daily consumption of drugs that cost 1000-1200 kroner.

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DENMARK

BRIEFS

WARNING ON DRUGS' PURITY--The narcotics police in Copenhagen issued a warning to addicts in the city yesterday that large quantities of impure or very fine drugs could have hit the market. The warning stemmed from the discovery of the dead body of a 30-year-old drug addict in the "Men's Home" on Istedgade. Doctors at city hospitals also said an unusual number of drug addicts had been admitted. But neither the narcotics division of the Copenhagen police nor the alarm patrol had heard anything about drugs on the market that are more dangerous than those addicts use ordinarily. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 26 Apr 80 p 7] 6578

CSO: 5300

FINLAND

MEDICAL AUTHORITY TIGHTENS PRESCRIPTION RULES FOLLOWING SCANDAL

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 24 Apr 80 p 7

[Article: "Medical Administration Issues Strict Orders to Doctors, Book Must Be Kept on Drug Users"]

[Text] The Central Medical Board has decided on new stricter regulations for doctors with respect to the prescribing of drugs to patients. The Central Medical Board has also prepared a proposal for a statute regarding drugs. It will also include a list of new substances which are to be considered as drugs.

In its open letter the Central Medical Board reminds physicians and dentists of the obligation to keep records on their patients. According to this letter physicians are to keep a record on patients for whom drugs are being prescribed if the information is not available in the patient's file. The record must include information about the patient's personality, date of visit, nature of illness, and the treatment provided. In addition, this record must show the name of the medication, amount, dosage, and date it was prescribed to the patient.

In its letter the Central Medical Board also notes that many narcotic and stimulative medicines are abused, and individuals selling these substances present incorrect information to physicians in order to obtain large amounts of drugs.

The Central Medical Board stipulates that if a doctor cannot confirm the necessity of prescribing a medication on the basis of his research or if he does not know the patient well, the doctor must refuse to prescribe such medication. Also a doctor must limit the size of the prescription so that misuse will not become a question.

The letter containing these points will come into effect on 1 June 1980.

Barbiturates to Be Declared a Drug

The Central Medical Board is proposing that the stipulations of the general international agreement concerning psychotropic substances and of the 1961 general agreement on narcotics be unified into a new statute on drugs. The

Central Medical Board is proposing that a group of substances which are comparable to drugs also be included in the list of narcotics contained in the general agreement.

Such drugs are, for example, certain barbiturates as well as benzodiazepine derivatives such as diazepam and nitrazepam.

The change in the statute may come into effect next October at the earliest.

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FINLAND

THREE CHARGED IN AMPHETAMINE FACTORY CASE

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 22 Apr 80 p 3

[Article: "Three Accused of Establishing Amphetamine Factory"]

[Text] The court case concerning the establishment of an amphetamine laboratory in the center of Helsinki, which became known early in the spring, was presented before the Helsinki Municipal Court on Monday.

The prosecuting attorney demanded punishment for a graduate engineer and correspondent from Helsinki for continued flagrant violation of the drug laws. A managing director from Helsinki is also accused of being an accomplice in this crime.

A fourth person has also been indicted in the case, but he has not yet been brought before the court. At the request of the prosecuting attorney the case was postponed until 5 May. The attorneys for the defense requested that their clients be released from custody pending trial, but the request was denied by the municipal court.

According to the indictment the graduate engineer and the correspondent obtained laboratory equipment between November of last year and March of this year for the manufacture of amphetamines in Helsinki. With this equipment they manufactured 50 grams of amphetamines in Helsinki and after that 250 grams in Stockholm.

Together the graduate engineer and the correspondent allegedly compiled instructions for manufacturing amphetamines and sent them to two Finnish residents in Stockholm, who continued manufacturing amphetamines.

In addition to manufacturing instructions, the Finns in Stockholm were sent raw materials for the preparation of 2.5 kilos of amphetamines, states the written indictment.

The third person indicted, a managing director from Helsinki, obtained the equipment necessary for making a laboratory in Helsinki and delivered the raw materials for manufacturing the amphetamines. The managing director also participated in the manufacture of the amphetamines in Stockholm. According to the indictment the managing director transported the raw materials from Helsinki to Stockholm and at one time brought back a small consignment of the completed amphetamines through the Helsinki-Vantaa Airport.

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FINLAND

PROSECUTOR DISCUSSES DOLOREX PRESCRIPTION CASE

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 8 May 80 p 13

[Article: "Dolorex Drug Case Expanding, 40 People to Be Accused"]

[Text] According to Public Prosecutor Ritva Santavuori, the prosecuting attorney in the Dolorex drug case now being heard in the Helsinki Municipal Court, the number of accused can rise to 40 people. At this time it is expected that there will be indictments against eight doctors.

The first two doctors will be indicted for gross violation of the drug laws at the next session of the court on 21 May.

The doctors prescribed to an elderly retired couple in Helsinki large doses of the powerful Dolorex tablets, which have found their way to the illicit drug traffic in the street.

Over a period of 5 years the couple was prescribed approximately 110,000 pills under their own as well as other names. Another couple is accused of possessing 5,000 tablets. The street value of this amount of tablets is several million markkas.

Part of the tablets were obtained by the retired couple legally since they are so-called users of narcotics, who are being medicated because of incurable drug addiction.

The case has not yet been closed, but the Central Medical Board has found signatures belonging to 115 doctors on the prescriptions for obtaining Dolorex.

Cognac and Fur Hats

The physicians being indicted have in certain instances carried out procedures deviating from the norm in prescribing medications. One doctor accepted two fur hats, which later turned out to be stolen, in payment for 100 Dolorex tablets.

A similar amount was obtained, for example, by paying 400 markkas and bringing "some good cognac since cognac is worth more than money". The cognac generally originated from the port of Sornais.

Another doctor was satisfied with just sherry, which was left in the unlocked trunk of his automobile prior to the patient's visit since the bottle would have made a clinking noise in the office.

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FRANCE

VON OPEL, KARG SAINT-TROPEZ HASHISH TRAFFICKING CASE APPEALED

Paris LE FIGARO in French 28 Apr 80 p 31

[Article by Pierre Bois in the column "Judicial Report": "An Heiress in Prison"]

[Text] The drug trafficking case, uncovered in June 1977 at Saint-Tropez, in which Christina von Opel, granddaughter of the famous German manufacturer, was found implicated, is coming to the fore at the present time with the opening of the appeal proceedings of the members of the ring. In the lower court at Draguignan, Christina von Opel, found guilty of having financed this trafficking, had been condemned to 10 years in prison.

A never-ending inquiry: more than 2 years. Proceedings which bogged down, which took on the monotonous tone of a school class, while, outside, one could see the sun and imagine the screeching of the cicadas. The presiding judge proceeded by allusions, the assistant public prosecutor spoke of extenuating circumstances, the lawyers for Christina von Opel, principally Messrs Badinter and Vaisse, rewrote history in their fashion, and the court seemed to listen to them and to believe them. As for Christina, a spoiled child of fortune, a lost child of drugs, she politely showed her boredom by exhibiting too good behavior, which was only a way of being elsewhere. As for Karg, a young man without excessive qualities, he smiled in the face of the judges' apparent leniency, as if what was most important to him was to preserve the image of his own defiance.

Until the brutal and surprising conclusion for the accused: a judgment pronounced at full speed where one caught haphazardly: 16 years for Michael Karg, organizer of the trafficking; 10 years for Christina von Opel.

Utter prostration. This summer romance, this Barbara Cartland style serial (ingredients: a solitary heiress cultivating her weariness of life with

a monthly income of a hundred thousand francs; a gigolo who thought that the affair was not that of a bolster but rather that of the open sea; a villa, Tour et Voile, at Saint-Tropez, which could only dazzle, by its mournful grandeur, tourists in August seeking a few square meters of sand; an immaculate yacht, the Sonia in the too blue water of Saint-Tropez, with 2.5 tons of hashish in its holds) took a now unexpected turn and spun around unpredictably; and this too light tale of no importance, which could have ended in a few tears and a little lecture, suddenly took on the hardness, the dryness of a closing speech for the prosecution: in which things were no longer unimportant and in which the reasons adduced resembled by their coldness mere accounting receipts.

Christina, from that moment, understood. Even if the words went over her head. She went into a panic--she had left her daughter Vanessa back in the hands of the governess, believing she would find her again in the evening--she sobbed heavily, she was handcuffed; and it was not her usual Mercedes, but an ordinary police car that brought her to the Baumettes.

Six months have passed. Christina von Opel has had the time to think about what should never have happened to her: during the trial, she thinks, in comparison with the others charged, I was taken for a privileged person. Indeed, I really was privileged. After a few months of preventive imprisonment, I was admitted to a psychiatric hospital. It was not an advantage, but it could pass for one. I was then assigned to house arrest in my villa. Again, another advantage. Finally, I presented myself freely for interviews, which made the press and the public believe that I was going to be protected. Indeed, this accumulation of small favors which I had not asked for finally cost me very dear.

Mr Vaisse goes even further: for him, "Christina paid the price of her richness." Which, in extrapolating his thought, would tend to prove that, by a compensatory phenomenon, Miss von Opel was condemned in advance, being in a way the scapegoat for that insolent money which is exhibited a little too much in the port of Saint-Tropez. Justice, which is often accused of being justice by class, by an unforeseen rebalancing system, indeed worked as justice by class, but in reverse.

With regard to Christina von Opel, the charges moreover remain sustained. Officially, she is accused of having provided her friend Karg with 264,000 marks to buy drugs in Lebanon. During her first trial, Christina was incapable of providing an exact accounting of her expenses. On appeal, her lawyers seem to be able to prove that a part of this money was used to pay taxes in the various countries (United States, Switzerland, Liechtenstein) where the Opels have bank accounts. Finally, it is difficult to prove that Christina took part in any material act whatsoever with regard to the loading, unloading and dispersion of the drugs.



There remains the Opel heiress's objective complicity. The first judgment clearly stated that she was guilty, while admitting "that certain elements of the case can be held in her favor." It is a little break (not a breach) that the defenders will try to enlarge: first on the juridical level and on the ambiguity of the terms purposely used in order not to write "extenuating circumstances."

Mr Bremond, who is in charge of the case, points out that the penalties applied in cases of international drug trafficking are from 10 to 20 years' imprisonment, but the court, in its reasons adduced, while using such phraseology, should automatically have gone below the minimum threshold, whether it was for a year or a month. Which was not done. As to the plan, more confusion, of the exact circumstances of the trafficking, the defense, there again, will try to transform Christina's objective complicity into subjective complicity.

Christina was intoxicated. All Saint-Tropez can testify to this. She took care of her lowness of spirits at the rate of a liter of vodka per evening, adding tranquilizers in high doses, while dosing herself with cocaine. At the time, she was adrift. Moreover, adrift is the term that is most suitable to her. Heiress to a name in letters of steel, Christina has the strength only of brass. Without roots--the Opels have been wandering from the United States to Europe, passing through Kathmandu, since their factories were bought up--and as if by family tradition, she trailed, in a way, her empty existence, remained tuned into a "me" without consistency, between Saint-Tropez and Saint-Moritz.

It was thus a young woman theoretically little aware who sheltered, at the Tour et Voile villa, a whole meeting of traffickers. In the "dominant-dominated" relationship dear to psychoanalysis, she was "dominant" on the social level, but "dominated" psychologically by the group. In this case--that is what could work for her defense--her complicity would certainly exist at the unconscious level, but not on the absolute level of reality. Christina, it has been pointed out, is in fact only an immature creature, a victim--why not, even if she is not a worker at Renault--of her environment. A victim of that world of Saint-Tropez, at the same time too much described and too much decried.

It is this general X-ray of the case that all the defense lawyers will try to lay out before the judges, by using a language--this language--more difficult to decipher than usual and which is scarcely found in glancing through the penal code. On the one hand, "the misfortunes of Putzi," as this little girl of 27 who accumulates follies is nicknamed; on the other, the turpitudes of that golden youth of Munich, of that iserschickeria, as is said in Germany, which, translated, means precisely the "cream and dregs" of society.

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TURKEY

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED--The recent increase in reports of heroin smuggling has drawn attention. At the start of the week, 15 kilos of pure heroin worth 1.5 billion lira was seized in Mardin's Omerli district. The heroin was brought in from Iran for shipment to Europe and America. In the wake of this seizure, there was a report that six Turks in the West German city of Frankfurt were arrested with 200 million-lira worth of heroin. [Text] [Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 18 May 80 p 8]

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